onconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION

Vol. XXX.—New Series, No. 1299.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1870.

PRICE STANFED 5d

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

COMMITTEE OF THE LORDS ON UNIVERSITY TESTS.

Ir is not to be imagined that the question of the Disestablishment of the Church of England, to be formally introduced to the House of Commons next Session, will supersede the re-introduction of a measure for the Abolition of University Tests. The latter question, in fact, has from the beginning been under the guidance of gentlemen, most of whom are members of one or other of the two ancient Universities, and several of whom would probably be found to object to any severance of the Church from the State. They will, in all likelihood, continue to prosecute their enterprise without the smallest reference to the influence it may have, whether favourable or unfavourable, upon the larger question of the Establishment. The object they have in view is chiefly, if not exclusively, an educational one. They may, or they may not, object to the imposition of religious tests at the Universities, on the ground of the restrictions they bring to bear upon Ecclesiastical freedom. They may or may not desire the removal of those tests as required by justice in the treatment of Nonconformists. But we think we are not far subsequently sustained, the movement which has so nearly reached a successful issue, in the interests of learning. Within sight of the end they sought to accomplish, they will, no doubt, redouble their exertions for next Session; and we are fully satisfied that the friends of Free-Churchism throughout the kingdom, will second their efforts to the fullest extent they have done on former occasions.

It may be well to remind our readers of the position in which the question stands at the present moment. Last Session witnessed a transference of the conduct of the measure from private hands to the hands of the Government, and the measure thus transferred contained some provisions in advance of those embodied in preceding Bills. Not only were the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham dealt with after the same fashion; not only were the Colleges and Halls in those Universities comprised within the range of the operation of the measure; but in the Bill which was sent up

to the House of Lords at the beginning of July in last year, there was a provision to the effect that what previous bills had made optional with the College authorities should be legally compulsory upon them in future, and that religious tests should be abolished by Parliamentary enactment for all university and college offices, with the exception, we think, of Divinity professorships. To the surprise of the Government, of the Liberal party in the House of Commons and of the great majority of the nation, the House of Lords, at the instance of the Marquis of Salisbury, objected, by a small but sufficient majority, to read the Bill a second time. In place of doing so, they passed a resolution to the following effect :-"That in any measure for enabling persons not members of the Church of England to hold offices to which they are not now eligible in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, and the Colleges and the Halls in those Universities, it is essential to provide by law proper safeguards for the maintenance of religious instruction and worship, and for the religious character of the education to be given therein.' A Select Committee was thereupon appointed for the purpose of inquiring into the best mode of giving effect to the foregoing resolution. The report of that Committee is now before us. It states that the Committee had inquired into the matter referred to them, and had examined four witnesses; that, in consequence of the advanced period of the Session, they had resolved to report the evidence taken before them, together with an appendix thereto, to the House; and it recommends the reappointment of the Committee at the commencement of the next Session. The witnesses examined were the Rev. Drummond Percy Chase, Principal of St. Mary Hall at Oxford, and Fellow of Oriel College; the Rev. Edward Henry Perowne, Fellow and Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; Professor Joseph Barber Lightfoot, D.D., Hulsean Professor of Divinity, Cambridge; and Professor George Rolleston, M.D., of Anatomy and Physiology, at Oxford. We shall take another opportunity of considering the evidence these gentlemen gave to the Committee. At present, we must content ourselves with observing generally that, though the witnesses were avowedly unfavourable to the removal of University Tests without proper safeguards, the evidence they gave will be found rather to support than to invalidate

That the Marquis of Salisbury should desire the reappointment of a Select Committee next Session, is hardly matter of surprise. He hopes thereby, no doubt, in point of time at least, to steal a march upon his opponents. By hanging up the whole question in his Committee till towards the close of the next Parliamentary Session, he perhaps expects to prevent for another year the passing of any measure for opening the Universities. It is to be sincerely hoped that Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues will not meekly acquiesce in having so important a Government measure thus kept out of their hands. The Right Hon. Premier, when, at the request of the friends of the Bill, he pledged the responsibility of his Government in furtherance of its principles, anticipated, we suppose, that the additional prestige conferred upon the measure by its being included in the Ministerial programme, would suffice to carry it against lingering but dwind-

ling opposition in the House of Lords. Whether due pains were taken to bring up the friends of University Reform in the House of Lords for the second reading of the Bill, we cannot say. We presume that all was done that could have been done to insure a successful issue. The public, however, will be apt to suspect the earnestness of the Cabinet (though not of the Prime Minister) in relation to this subject, if it is quietly allowed to be set aside by Lord Salisbury for another Session. Indeed, we feel confident that the Liberal party in the House of Commons will not consent to a line of tactics so indicative of timidity. Unquestionably there are members who will test the feeling of the popular branch of the Legislature in regard to this matter, and it were much to be deprecated that any semblance of division, where, after all, no real division exists, should result from any mistaken tenderness in dealing with patrician way-

wardness and caprice.

The country, we believe, would not merely approve, but rather confidently look for, an opposite course of tactics, and we are not, by any means, convinced that the country would not be right. We have never found Conservatism among the Peers conciliated to reasonable conclusions by irresolute conduct. The Marquis of Salisbury is precisely the man to take advantage of unnecessary concessions. He ought to be faced as an antagonist, and the more boldly he is faced the more he is likely to yield. At any rate, Ministers have their own Parliamentary reputation to look after, as one of the bonds by which their party is kept together. Next year, it would be well for them to insert in their Bill, a clause for the compulsory Abolition of Clerical Fellowships. . This would make the measure a real and vital measure of Educational Reform. Every refusal of the Lords to do justice on a small scale, should be met by a demand of the Commons that it be done on a larger scale. Easier terms ought not to be the reward of factious obstruction.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

Ws should be doing an injustice to the majority of Churchmen if we were to make them responsible for the action of the National Society, although that society reckons most, if not all, of the archbishops and bishops on its committee. There is generally some body which represents an extreme feeling and ard to education, the Nati Society has always been this body. It is an incarnation of the intolerance of the Church. Started with bad feeling and for a merely sectarian purpose, it has all along been conducted in a bad spirit and with a sectarian aim. It has done almost as much as, if not more than, any other institution to make the Establishment hated in the smaller towns and the rural districts. And it is still what it was. The law has imposed a Conscience Clause upon all schools receiving Government aid, and now the National Society comes forward to declare that it will exclude from its assistance all schools having a Conscience Clause in their trust-deeds. It happens that not many Church schools have such clauses, and it happens that the National Society cannot, from want of funds, render very substantial assistance to any school, but the spirit of its action is the same as though it were all powerful. We wonder whether it is, or can be, imagined that such a resolution will be of benefit to the Establishment? We must suppose, however, that the old order of Churchmen has not yet died out, and that there is still a strong belief that punishments, pains, penaltics, exclusiveness, and excommunication are winning qualities, and will

make an institution beloved as well as respected. Love has, with singular ignorance, been said to be blind, whereas one cannot see without it: it is bate that is blind-both blind and, for permanent

effect, even impotent.

It is, however, in some respects, creditable to the Church to see the activity which it is just now exhibiting. We read of meetings in all parts of the country-meetings pervaded by a spirit of great earnestness and self-sacrifice. It is true, as we have more than once remarked, that a sectarian, and sometimes a bitterly sectarian, spirit animates much of the earnestness, stimulates the activity, and encourages the self-sacrifice; but there these qualities are, and no human judgment can pretend to gauge their value. Having read the reports of several meetings in all parts of the country, we are obliged to say that Churchmen, on the whole, appear to be getting slightly influenced by the spirit of toleration that pervades modern society. There are exceptions. We met with such a one at a diocesan gathering at Wells, where Canon Gregory spoke. The Canon deprecated the recent Education Act, because, in his judgment, it gave "no advantage to the Church over the sects," and he thought that this, therefore, was the duty of Churchmen :-

They must, therefore, do their best to exclude from all the dioceses of England all school-board schools, and he gave three reasons for so doing, upon which he argued at considerable length—viz., first, they would overthrow the defences provided by the formularies and catechism of the Church; secondly, they would destroy
the liberty of the subject so far as centralisation instead
of local authority could do it; and, thirdly, they would
be putting in the thin end of the wedge, in order to introduce persecution again into England. He stated that as our ancestors persecuted men who did not hold the faith, we were going to persecute people because they could not read the newspapers, write their names, and do the multiplication table. In fact, he did not think that an Act so un English, so unconstitutional, and so tyrannical, was ever passed by the English Par-liament, as the Education measure, and he believed if its principles were carried out in English life, they would be subversive of the whole fabric of English

This is an extreme opinion, and may be explained by the fact that the Canon is treasurer of the National Society. It does not represent the whole or the general feeling of Churchmen, who in many instances are better than creeds and better than their Church.

Still keeping to this question, we may direct attention to some passages in a termon by Dr. Vaughan, delivered at Leicester last week. Referring to a former incumbent, Dr. Vaughan said, in significant words :-

We cannot say, without guessing, how he might have viewed the particular condition at this time of what is called the educational question. Certainly, he perceived earlier than most men, the inevitable action of political events upon the future relationship of Church and State. He saw that, as soon as persons not Churchmen were admitted into the great national council, the theory of an Established Church was gone. The mere mechanical cohesion of a compact and long tried fabric mechanical cohesion of a compact and long-tried fabric might survive for some years, perhaps for many years, the mining of its foundations, but the time must come when a levelling of all ecclesiastical privileges shall be the demand, not more of violence than of logic, and when, in education as in all else, each denomination of Christians must stand on its own efforts and its own self-sacrifices, if it would secure any place at all in the education of the children of its people.

This, we suppose, intimates Dr. Vaughan's own belief that the theory of an Established Church is gone; that it is now nothing but a "mechanical cohesion," that a "levelling of all ecclesiastical privileges will be the demand, not of violence, but of logic." So we road his words. They are, at least,

what we should expect from him.

one in harmony with Dr. Vaughan's. Dr. Vaughan thing, or have something done, to hasten what will The Bishop of Oxford had said at the Wells meeting to which we have already referred, that if Churchmen did not rise to the present crisis the end would be that in five years a purely and exclusively secular system only would be aided by the State. The Archdeacon doubts whether the denominational system, of which the recent Act is a buttress, will last half that time, and therefore he puts forward an alternative more befitting in every way of a Church.

That is, that the Church should, instead of bartering her principles for State aid and forsaking her trr.st, go forth in humble faith in her Divine Master, and undertake the building and maintaining schools in which she may, without let or hindrance from civil policy, teach her own children, as her commission is to do, at all times of the day, directly and indirectly, expressly and incidentally, the whole truth of God, not swerving between religious and secular, acknowledging to the utmost the duty of giving the best secular instruction possible, but taking heed that this be throughout seasoned and leavened with the Catholic faith.

These, please Mr. Archdeacon, are our words, our faith, and our counsel; what business have you with them Are you at last coming over to us?

Just one other topic. A correspondence between

the Synod of Greece and the Archbishop of Canterbury is printed in last week's Guardian. We find the following admirable sentiment in the Archbishop's letter :-

As God has made the children of His universal family As God has made the children of His universal family to differ infinitely in tone of mind, in cast of thought, in general character no less than in outward circumstances, it is unreasonable to expect that we should all take exactly the same view of questions of outward ceremony, government, or even of doctrine, when such questions are not expressly and unmistakably declared in the Holy Scriptures. An illustration of this we find in those words of your address, if indeed we interpret them correctly, in which your Holiness speak of prayers for the souls of the departed. Such prayers our Church does not sanction. But differences upon matters like does not sanction. But differences upon matters like these, however great may be their importance, ought not to bar the way against the recognition of Christian fellowship.

Will the reader read twice the words we have italicised? Less difference than that specified bars, and has ever barred, Protestant Dissenters in England from recognition of Christian followship by Churchmen. Less difference has been, and is sufficient for excommunication. But we are orthodox Protestant Dissenters, and not heretical Greeks, and therefore not deserving of " Christian fellowship."

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY'S NEW CAMPAIGN.

The operations of the Liberation Society during the coning winter being intended as the commence-ment of a movement for disestablishing the Church in England and Wales, it is intended to hold several local conferences, at which the plans of the executive committee will be described, and arrangements made for local action in their support. The first of these meetings was held at Leicester, on the evening of the 4th inst., when Mr. Carvell Williams met the local committee and subscribers. The Rev. J. P. Mursell, one of the early promoters of the society, occupied the chair. The proceedings were opened by an address from Mr. Williams, who, after congratulating the meeting on the recent abolition of the ecclesiastical establishments in Ireland, in Jamaica, and in the Bahamas, and the cessation of State aid to religion in Victoria, said that those successes necessitated an advanced movement, and that it had been resolved to raise the whole question of Church Establishments in the most decisive way, by assailing them in their stronghold, viz., in England and Wales. That, therefore, would be the definite aim of their future proceedings, and, while they were raising the question out-of-doors, Mr. Miall would bring it before the House of Commons, as he had done the Irish Church, long before its as he had done the trial children actually took place. He then described in detail the various modes of action to which it was intended to resort, and said that, in commencing their new campaign, they naturally looked to Leicester, the birthplace of the anti-State-Church agitation, for the increased support which would be required. A discussion on the various points raised followed, the speakers being the Rev. Messrs. Coe, Mackennal, Wood, and Irving, Messrs. S. Viccars, W. Baines, G. Baines, Grundy, Anderson, Chambers, and Lancaster. Three resolutions were passed—the first approving of the projected action; the second expressing a hope that the motion of Mr. Miall, M.P., would be vigorously supported; and the third agreeing to hold a public meeting near the time for the assembling of Parliament. As it was admitted that in recent years the subject had not been brought before the inhabitants of the town so conspicuously as in past times, it was resolved that the work of public tuition should be at once resumed, and, partioularly, that a series of young men's meetings should be held, and a special committee to make the arrangements was appointed. The proceedings closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Carvell Williams for his visit and address, and with thanks to Mr. Mursell, who referred to some interesting circumstances occurring in connection with the early efforts of Mr. Miall and his associates.

Archdeacon Denison strikes a different note, but CLAIMS OF NONCONFORMIST MINISTERS TO VOTES.

On Friday, Mr. Phillips, the Revising Barrister for West Kent, attended at Creenwich, to revise the for West Kent, attended at Creenwich, to revise the lists of voters for the parishes of Greenwich, and St. Paul's and St. Nicholas, Deptford. Mr. Edwin Hughes represented the Conservatives, and Mr. Carnell, with Mr. Saw, the Liberals. The name of the Rev. John Pulling, of 19, Union-street, St. Paul's, Deptford, Congregational minister, appeared on the list as claimant for a vote, in respect of his interest in the Congregational Church, High-street, Deptford, described as a "freehold." Mr. Hughes objected, on the ground that the claimant had not a bora fide on the ground that the claimant had not a bora fid life interest in the property—that he could be dispossessed at any time by the vote of the congregation, and that the building itself was vested in the hands of trustees. Mr. B. B. Roberts, a member of the congregation, stated in support of the claim that the claimant was elected to the ministerial off to be the claimant was elected to the ministerial office by a majority of the congregation; that the annual emoluments arising from pew-rents averaged about 2401., and that he would hold his appointment for life. Mr. Hughes asked where the rev. gentleman was himself, and Mr. Roberts said he was in America, but he did not know how long he would be there He further stated that the pew-rents were collected by the deacons, who paid them over to the claimant, that the trustees were answerable for keeping the building in proper repair, and that it was only used for "Protestant worship." Mr. Hughes asked—Are

the contributions voluntary? Mr. Roberts said they were, and that they were accounted for in the yearly balance-sheet on the receipt side. Mr. Carnell asked the witness to produce the deed, but he said he could not, as it was deposited in the church safe, under the custody of seven trustees, all of whom would have to give a unanimous consent before it could be produced. Mr. Carnell asked if there was any copy of it, or if any draft deed had been drawn lately, on the appointment of a new trustee. Mr. Roberts said the deed had been drawn up 200 years ago, and of course no one could be produced as a witness on that, but a draft deed had been prepared. He, however, knew pothing about it. Mr. Hughes contended that there nothing about it. Mr. Hughes contended that there was not sufficient evidence to support the claim. In reply to the revising barrister, Mr. Roberts said the church could be sold by the trustees, under the provisions of the deed of trust, provided the rent receipts fell so low as to bring in only 25t. per annum, but otherwise it was for the service of Protestant worship He could not say if claimant could be removed from office, but he thought not, and his pre-decessors had all held office till death. His Honour considered the evidence in support of the claim insufficient, and disallowed the vote. A claim in respect of the residence, which is in St. Nicholas parish, however, was sustained.

In the case of the Rev. R. M. Martin, of Christ-

church Vicarage, Bermondsey, which came before the revising barrister for East Surrey on Saturday at Anerley, it was decided that the freshold of a church, whether legal or equitable does not matter, is vested in the incumbent, and that being so, he is

entitled to the franchise.

At Plymouth the revising barrister has struck off the county list the whole of the persons who claimed to vote for South Devon in right of the possession of "freehold pews" in St. George's Church, Stene-

The monthly board of the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge on Wednesday voted 5,000l. to the disestablished Church in Jamaica.

The Venerable Archdeacon Hadfield has been appointed to the Bishopric of Wellington, vacant by the resignation of the Right Rev. Dr. Abraham.

Dr. Hughes, the newly-appointed Bishop of St. Asaph, preached his first Welsh sermon in the parish church of that city last week, on the occasion of a thanksgiving service for the harvest.

At the laying of the foundation-stone of a new church in Omagh, the Duke of Aberdeen exhorted Irish Episcopalians to draw closer the bonds of cordiality and good will among Protestants of all de-nominations in Ireland.

The Guardian regrets to see that the National Society have thought it advisable to revive the Conscience Clause controversy by declaring their inten-tion to exclude from its aid schools having such a clause in the trust-deed.

THE CASE OF THE REV. Mr. Voysey.—The long pending appeal of Mr. Voysey from the Chancery Court of York has been specially appointed to be heard by the Judicial Committee on the 10th Nov.

THE IRISH CHURCH.-The Primate of the Irish Church held a visitation on Thursday at Armagh, and in his charge to the clergy reviewed the transactions of the General Convention and pointed out the necessity of devoting their attention to the collection of a sustentation fund instead of entering into disputes about the revision of the Prayer-book. He deprecated the movement for forcing the latter sub-ject upon the consideration of the Church at present, though he did not deny that the Prayer-book might be improved.

RITUALISM AT ST. ALBAN'S, HOLBORN.—The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have appointed Monday, the 14th of November, to hear an application in the case of "Martin v. Mackonochie" respecting the manner in which the services are conducted at St. Alban's, Holborn. It will be remem-bered that Mr. Mackonochie was served with a monition as to kneeling during the prayer of consecration in the Holy Communion Service, and subsequently notice of motion was given that the Judicial Committee would be applied to in order to enforce obedience. Affidavits were filled on both sides, and the motion was withdrawn. Another notice of motion has been given to Mr. Mackonochie on the part of the promoters in the original suit through the Church Association. Their Lordships have appointed the 14th of November for the hearing, and Mr. Mackonochie will probably appear in person.

THE IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—An address to the members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has just been published. issued by the great lay conference which assembled at Belfast on the 28th of September. Regarding the present financial position and future prospects of the Church, the address refers with pride to the noble manner in which, by an overwhelming majority, the General Assembly resolved to commute in the interests of the Church. It expresses regret that there are still some congregations which have not yet contributed to the Sustentation Fund, and calls upon the Presbyterians of Ireland never to allow it to be said that by their lukewarmness the interests of Presby-terianism had been damaged. The address goes on to say that, as in the Free Church of Scotland, the Sustentation Fund must depend mainly on "the little of the multitude," and impresses on congregations the importance of securing such organisations for the payment of contributions as will ensure systematic and frequent giving.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP ON THE ANNEXATION OF ROME.—On Sunday evening Bishop Goss, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Liverpool, at a confirmation service at Euxton, near Chorley, referred to the entry of the Italian troops into Rome. He said it mattered little to the Christian Church whether the Pope was the head of a Roman State or not. The Italians were not winning that which they had lost, for Rome never belonged to Italy. Any one would have the same right to invade the cottage garden of any poor woman as Italy had to take Rome. What the Italians had done was quite contrary to the law of nations. The question of the temporal power of the Pope was quite different from his jurisdiction over the Church of God. Though the Pope was deprived of Rome and shut up in the Leonine city, his spiritual power remained unbroken, and could not be affected by the legions of the King of Italy.—The lay Catholics of England, with the Duke of Norfolk at their head, have resolved to protest against the mattered little to the Christian Church whether the at their head, have resolved to protest against the invasion of Rome by the Italians. A document having this object in view is at present in course of

signature. ENGLISH PRESENTERIAN SYNOD .-- The annual synod of the English United Presbyterian Church is being held this year at Birmingham. The proceed-ings were opened on Monday evening by a sermon preached by the Rev. James Towers, of Birkenhead, and an address by the Moderator of Synod, the Rev. John Macfarlane, D.D., of London. The sittings of synod extend over Wednesday and Thursday, and, from the nature of some of the subjects to be disfrom the nature of some of the subjects to be discussed, and their bearing on questions which at present stir the English mind, the interest excited outside the Presbyterian body will be considerable. Last evening the Rev. Dr. Edmond, of London, was to read a paper on an "Exposition of the Principles of the United Presbyterian Church," followed by an address by the Rev. Joseph Corbett, of Manchester, on "Phases of Unbelief, and the way in which they may be met." On the programme for the same evening is a paper by the Rev. W. M. Taylor, M.A., of Liverpool, and an address by the Rev. Professor of Liverpool, and an address by the Rev. Professor Cairns, of Berwick. To-morrow morning will be devoted to the discussion of the following topics:— 1. Home Evangelistic Effort; paper by the Rev. James Muir, Egremont, Liverpool; and addresses by Mr. Francis Johnston, also of Egremont. 2. Congregational Finance; paper by Mr. Samuel Stitt, of Birkenhead; and address by the Rev. George Bell, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The meetings of synod are held in the newly-erected Gothic chapel at Campbill, of which the Rev. James M'Kerrow is pastor.

CARDINAL CULLEN ON THE ITALIAN OCCUPATION OF ROME.—Cardinal Cullen has issued a letter to the "clergy and people of his diocese" on the "late events in Rome." These, he says, must fill the heart of every Catholic with grief and indignation. "The Florentine Government, unmindful of treaties, despising the principles of justice and honour, trampling on the most venerable rights, have invaded, without any provocation whatever, and without declaring war, the small remnant of the Papal territories which had escaped their rapacity when plundering the States of the Church in 1859." The Pope is "a prisoner in his own capital," and "our Divine Lord has been insulted in the person of His vicar." After giving the history of a number of Popes who were restored after undergoing persecutions, the Cardinal reviews in particular the history of the First Napoleon, who prospered in all his wars as long as he was faithful to justice and religion. He was not driven to St. Helena until he had deserted the Church. There is reason to hope, he adds, that God will give the present Pope a glorious triumph over his enemies. Of Napoleon III. triumph over his enemies. Of Napoleon III., Cardinal Cullen says:—"It is known to all that success abandoned the arms of Napoleon III., and wisdom left his councils, since he began to seek the ruin of the Pope's authority. His star commenced to wane in 1859 and 1860, when he first openly abandoned the Pope; and since then his policy miserably failed in Mexico, Germany, Turkey, and the East." The document is very long, and in conclusion, expresses sympathy with the French nation, and directs masses for His Holiness and a national protest from Ireland against the Italian "outrages."

Religious and Denominational News

The Rev Clement Bailhache, of Islington, has been appointed Association Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, on the retirement of the Rev. F. Trestrail.

RUGBY.—The Independents at Rugby having erected a very suitable house for their minister, its completion was celebrated last week by the following completion was celebrated last week by the following services:—On Sunday, the 2nd inst., their pastor, the Rev. E. Storrow, preached from Psalm cxxvii., part 1st verse. On Monday the occasion was used to cultivate friendly intercourse between neighbouring churches, and the ministers and deacons of thirty-one of them, Baptists and Independents, having been invited, a large proportion of them met. After a prayer-meeting, an address by the Rev. W. Rose, of Long Buckby, and tea, a meeting was held, introduced by a paper read by the Rev. T. Adams, of Daventry, on "The various methods in which churches may assist each other." On Wednesday the members of the church and congregation met the members of the church and congregation met for tea. The house, exclusive of the land, has cost above 730/.

St. Helens.—The recognition of the Rev. William Oxford as the minister of the Congregational Chapel, Peasley Cross, St. Helens, took place on Tuesday, October 4tb. In the absence, through family affliction, of the Rev. John Kelly, of Liverpool, the Rev. D. E. Ford, of Manchester, presided. Rev. Thomas Willis, of Manchester, delivered an address on "The mutual duties of paster and people." The Rev. R. J. Ward, of St. Helens, gave an outline of the steps which had led to the present

meeting. The Rev. W. Oxford stated his reasons for accepting the call of the church. The Rev. James Gwyther, of Manchester, offered prayer. The Rev. J. Bedell, of Manchester, followed with an address to the people. The Revs. T. G. Lee, of Manchester, G. S. Reaney, of Warrington, and W. Miller, St. Helens, also took part in the service. In the evening the Rev. J. A. Macfadyen, M.A., of Manchester, preached to a large congregation. On the following evening a tea-meeting was held to welcome Mr. Oxford to his new sphere.

WARMINSTER.—The members of the Congrega-tional church at Common Close, Warminster, met on Tuesday, September 27, to present testimonials to the Rev. H. M. Gunn, who, after a twenty-three years' pastorate in that town, has accepted an years pastorate in that town, has accepted an invitation to Park Crescent Congregational Church, Clapham. Many friends from Frome, Westbury, and the villages were present. The chapel was well filled, Mr. Stent, the senior deacon, presiding. The chairman's address touched in warm terms upon the long-continued harmony between pastor, officers, and church, and affirmed that the cordial unanimity had never been interrupted by any discordant note during the twenty-three years. Mr. Rowland and Mr. Gilbert testified to Mr. Gunn's usefulness in the county and their personal esteem for his character. The presentation of a testimonial by Mr. Carson followed, who spoke of the readiness with which the congregation had responded, and of its complete success. The actual gift could not be made at this time, the subscribers having decided to present Mr. Gunn with a suit of library furniture in solid oak, which would have to be made to order. Two young men from the Sunday-school Bible-class next presented the scholars' testimonial—u handsome dinner. sented the scholars' testimonial—a handsome dining-room timepiece—which is to bear an inscription room timepiece—which is to bear an inscription appropriate to the circumstances. The Rev. H. M. Gunn, in his reply, reviewed the past with its many changes, in the advance of public opinion towards full religious liberty, and expressed confidence in the hopeful future, both for the society he was separating from and for the Church of Christ generally. Mr. H. O. Wills, the Rev. Messrs. Durrell (Penrith) and Ruddock afterwards addressed the meeting.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY AND ROME. following is an extract from a letter written by the Secretary of the Florence Publication Committee, dated Sept. 20, 1870:—"There is great joy in Florence to-day at the news that the Italian troops have entered Rome. The news that the army had entered, set all the bells ringing, and flags flying on the committee of the committee every house. Dr. Stewart wrote me a few days ago, strongly urging me to send at once some colporteurs into the Roman States. He is about to send some with Bibles; but he says the expenses connected with Bibles; but he says the expenses connocted with the carriage are so great that he cannot send books and tracts. Although the funds of our society are very low at present—in fact, I have had to advance a considerable sum to carry on the work of the summer—yet I think that advantage ought to be taken of the present opportunity of doing good; I intend sending one or two men as soon as possible. tend sending one or two men as soon as possible. They may not at first be permitted to enter Rome, but I do not think they will be prevented from selling in other towns. A bookseller has already promised to sell our books in Rome as soon as possible; but I believe that colportage is also necessary in order to bring the books under the notice of the people." This letter having been read before the Committee of the Tract Society, it was immediately resolved that 5001. should at once be placed at the disposal of the Florence Committee for this special disposal of the Florence Committee for this special field. The *Record* prints the following letter which has been received from the Bible Society's agent in Rome:—"At last the Bible is in Rome, and four, if not six, of the society's colporteurs are in this city. Having marched with the soldiers from beyond the frontier, they entered with a portion of them on Tuesday, soon after a breach had been made in the walls by General Cadorna. The first to get in—and he was determined to be the first—was Frandini, who was exiled in 1860, and who was keen to see his was exiled in 1860, and who was keen to see his parents once more, and to carry the Bible back with him to his native city. I have not seen all the men yet, but expect to do so this evening. It is premature to say what reception the Bible may receive from those to whom it is offered for the first time."

half-a-century in the mission field in South Africa. There was a large attendance, the rooms being crowded. The Rev. Henry Batchelor occupied the chair. After devotional exercises, the chairman said that Mr. Moffat had been fifty-four years said that Mr. Monat had been hity-four years absent from his native land as a missionary in Southern Africa, and now he had come to spend the evening of his days in this country. The chairman also mentioned that 'Mr. Moffat was under no apprehension as to the safety of Dr. Livingstone, but was satisfied that they would find him turning up by and by, and telling all about his travels and enterprises. Principal Fairbairn then moved—"That this meeting desires to record its gratitude to God this meeting desires to record its gratitude to God for His goodness in sparing the Rev. Mr. Moffat to return to his native land, after more than fifty years' missionary labour in South Africa, and cordially welcomes Mr. Moffat to Glasgow, with the prayer that he may be spared to infuse into very many the spirit of Christian devotedness which has

and the gradual change that had taken place, till and the gradual change that had taken place, till from being ignorant savages they were now intelligent, active, peaceable, and industrious people, and all through the teaching of the Gospel, which ought to precede, and would always precede, true civilisation. The Africans in the South had now the Bible in their own language, besides Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" and other volumes. In fact, they had the germs of literature of their own, with able men among them to foster and increase the love of learning which had been stirred up. He intended to devote the last years of his life to the printing of a dictionary of the Bechuana language and a new edition of the Bible.

The Twelve Days' Mission Experiment.—A

THE TWELVE DAYS' MISSION EXPERIMENT. meeting of London clergy was held on Monday at Sion College for the purpose of receiving a report relative to a proposed renewal of last year's Twelve Days' Mission, from a committee appointed last November to confer with the Bishops of London, Winchester, and Rochester upon the subject. The chair was taken by Canon Gregory, and he was supported by the Rev. Messrs. Kempe, Dalton, Simpson, Fremantle, Compton, Le Geyt, Collett, Nihill, Furze, Dr. Littledale, and others. A report was read which stated that the bishops, although of opinion that such efforts as the "Twelve Days' Mission" can be useful, or indeed justifiable, only when exceptional and rare, yet considering that there was adequate testimony to the beneficial effects of the mission of 1869, would be glad to encourage the holding of mission services in 1871 on the following conditions:

—"That no religious services shall be used in church other than those which are contained in the Prayer-book, or consist of the very words of Scripture; that meeting of London clergy was held on Monday at other than those which are contained in the Prayer-book, or consist of the very words of Scripture; that no ritual shall be used in any church in excess of, or in addition to, the ordinary ritual of such church; and, in particular, that no unauthorised form be introduced as a renewal of the baptismal vow; that although every facility should be given for personal and private communication with the clergy to those who are troubled in conscience or who require and private communication with the clergy to those who are troubled in conscience, or who require further comfort, counsel, or instruction, the services shall not be made the occasion of recommending the practice of habitual confession to the priest as a duty of the Christian life." The report went on to state that, encouraged by the Episcopal reply, the committee were unanimous in agreeing that a mission should be held in 1871, but in consideration of the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of preachers for the simultaneous conduct of so many services, recommended that instead of the mission being held simultaneously for the whole metropolis, the metropolitan district should be metropolis, the metropolitan district should be divided into four or more sections, and that the mission should thus be distributed over some portion of thirteen weeks between the first Sunday after Epipany and the fifth Sunday in Lent. A long debate followed; the extreme High-Church party in some cases protesting against the restrictions apparently imposed by the bishops, which they regarded as an infringement of their rights as priests, and others of the Low-Church party deprecating the introduction of confession at all. There was a general feeling, too, expressed against the processions with lighted candles with which the mission last year had been brought to a close in one or two churches of the been brought to a close in one or two churches of the "advanced" Ritualistic type. Ultimately, however, a resolution was carried in favour of holding the mission, the question of the time and the plan of spreading it over several weeks being referred back the committee for further consideration.

CHESHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The autumnal session of this union was held on Wednesday, in the Congregational church, High Town, Crewe; Mr. Joseph Thompson presided. The Rev. W. Urwick, of Hatherlow, moved a resolution authorising the expenditure of the funds of the union in support of day-school teachers and Bible-women. He said tho day-school teachers and Bible-women. He said the Church party were exceedingly active at present in endeavouring to meet, as far as possible, the educational wants of the various districts throughout the country. The addresses delivered at the meeting of the Chester and Manchester Diocesan Board of Education on Tuesday showed what the policy of the Church of England was in reference to the education of the church of England was in reference to the education. ture to say what reception the Bible may receive from those to whom it is offered for the first time."

Welcome to the Rev. Robert Moffat.—On Thursday night, a public meeting was held in the Queen's Rooms, Glasgow, to welcome the Rev. Robert Moffat, who has laboured for upwards of and the necessity for the erection of separate buildings which they had at present ready for the purposes of British schools. The religious difficulty would thereby be removed, and the necessity for the erection of separate buildings which they had at present ready for the purposes of British schools. ings in various parts of the country, particularly in the rural districts, would be prevented, as would also the necessity for the formation of school boards, and the very complicated and in some respects objectionable apparatus connected with them. They would prevent the schools from being handed over to the overseers of townships and persons of that character, who were often unfit for the work of conducting schools and of judging of the qualifications of teachers. The Rev. T. Robinson said he did not think there was any processity for the course prothink there was any necessity for the course pro-posed by the Rev. Mr. Urwick. He thought the conscience clause was quite sufficient for the protection of children in the Church schools. After a short discussion, the resolution was carried by seventeen votes against sixteen. The Rev. W. A. Blake, Crewe, read a paper on the Pastors' Retiring Fund. He said the present system of providing retiring pensions for pastors was defective in many respects, and it was felt that some more comprehensive and so conspicuously distinguished him."—Dr. M'Ewen seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.—Mr. Moffat, who was received with most enthusiastic cheering, then addressed the meeting, and gave an interesting account of his labours among the Bechuanas—the savage habits and customs which were in force when he went there first, posed that a conference should be held in Manchester in reference to this subject only. The Rev. Mr. Morris observed that this was not really a Cheshire fund, because it belonged to Lancaster and Yorkshire, therefore the objects of the society were not circumscribed, but extended. The Rev. W. Urwick was of opinion that what they wanted was not a retiring fund (which he thought would be an inducement for ministers to vacate their post), but a sustentation fund. The Rev. W. A. Blake having replied, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to him for his valuable paper. Mr. R. Dutton, Stanthorne, read a paper on "The Duty of our Churches in the development of Congregational principles at posed that a conference should be held in Manchester thorne, read a paper on "The Duty of our Churches in the development of Congregational principles at the present time," for which he received a vote of thanks. Mr. W. Milne, of Bowdon, read a paper on the subject of "Sunday-schools and Compulsory Elementary Education." Mr. Algernon Fletcher, in a neat and appropriate speech, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Milne for his able exposition of the subject, which Mr. Ratcliffe seconded. Carried nem. dis. The Rev. T. Peters, Chester, in speaking on county evangelistic work, said one of the questions which urged themselves on their earnest attention was, what were the Congregationalists doing towards the evangelisation of Cheshire? Surrounded as they were by 500,000 or 600,000 souls, there was certainly a wide field for Christian enterprise. It was true that the Congregationalists had some 70 chapels, 40 or 50 ministers tionalists had some 70 chapels, 40 or 50 min and evangelists, and sitting accommodation for 24,000 or 25,000 people; but what was that number among or 25,000 people; but what was that number among the large population of the country? He thought that, in the work of evangelisation, there should be a larger employment of lay agency, in well-organised cottage-meetings, in the occupation of mission-rooms, and, where circumstances permitted, the erection of mission chapels in densely populated but much neglected neighbourhoods. During the summer months much good might be accomplished by openair services, and special services in connection with existing interests might be established. A discussion took place on the paper, and a vote of thanks was took place on the paper, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Peters. A public meeting in connec-tion with the Union was held in the evening, in the Congregational Church; Mr. Joseph Thompson pre-sided. The Rev. G. J. Allen, Macclesfield, read a paper on Evangelical preaching. The Rev. W. Urwick delivered an address on the old Noncon-formists of the district. The Rev. P. W. Darnton, Chester, delivered an address on "Motives and In-spirations for Christian Worship."

Correspondence.

MINISTERIAL SETTLEMENTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,-With all possible respect and deference to the honoured members of the London Board of Congregational Ministers who have advocated the resolutions, I would ask your permission to offer some further criticisms, with special reference to the letter in your last number written "in reply to the Note-writer and Vigilans.

Not doubting for a moment that the resolutions were framed with a simple desire to promote the cause of truth and righteousness, I still hold that they are a great mistake, and that they are fraught with grievous

peril to Congregational Churches.

Endeavours are made to disarm jealousy and opposisition by the assurances that we are but returning to the godly custom of our forefathers, and honestly carrying out very simple processes which have long been sanctioned amongst us; but the same time it is evident that the promoters of the resolutions regard them as a step in advance, and expect great good to result from

This great good will, I still contend, be the excom munication of all ministers and churches with which the local conference is not satisfied. The editor of the English Independent, who put himself in the forefront to do battle for the resolutions, is happily quite out-spoken on the point. "In future (he writes) we would disown all churches and so-called ministers who do not fully and satisfactorily comply with our conditions of ordination." As to the meaning of this avowal there can be no mistake.

Such ministers and churches are to be excommunicated. They will be debarred from all material and spiritual advantages to which otherwise as recognised members of the Congregational body they might have laid claim. They will, of couse, not be eligible as members of the Union. If the minister is poor, he must forego all hope of having his income supplemented. He cannot expect in his old age an annuity from the Pastors' Retiring Fund. He and the church which has been guilty of choosing him "without consulting the neighbouring churches, and securing their approval," are isolated within the narrow pale of their own fellowship, and beyond that cannot indulge in the luxury of the communion of saints. It is to be presumed that they will be unable to transfer members to other churches, or to receive members from them; for they are disowned. Now, Sir, I grant that any of our churches apostatising from the truth as it is in Jesus, would deservedly incur this punishment, heavy as it is. But surely the local conference which decides such a matter takes upon itself a very great responsibility. The question which they have to decide is not whether they

personally shall hold intercourse with the new-comer, but whether the entire body of Congregational Churches and ministers shall concede him a place in their fellowship? They are constituted, or they constitute themselves, judges on behalf of the denomination. For this third resolution expresses "the earnest hope that brethren from a distance will take no part in any pastoral settlement until they have received evidence that such a local conference has been held, or that in some other suitable way satisfaction has been given to neighbouring pastors and churches, and that the settlement has their approval."

It is plain that the members of the local conference are to be the sole judges; and from their decision there is no appeal.

An alternative indeed there is. The new-coming minister may refuse to appear before this tribunal. He may have no confidence in their judgment as to what is essential to be truth. He was originally commended to the ministry by an orthodox church. He has passed through College with the approbation of his tutors. His teaching satisfies the church which has elected him. He knows in his heart that he is loyal to the Great Master, and he is unable to see the reasonableness or the righteousness of this fresh ordeal. He is not convinced that the half-dozen neighbouring ministry and officers of churches are intallible judges of Christian truth, or that they have any superior fitness for their office. Well, in that case it is said, "If he asks no such acknowledgment, there is an end of the matter." Yes, indeed, and a most painful end.

But are our churches prepared to submit to this? If so, farewell then our boast of freedom. Better far the ancient creeds and standards than the capricious and conflicting decisions of extemporised local conferences.

> I am, Sir, your obedient servant, VIGILANS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,-I am of opinion that the thanks of Nonconformists are due to you (as they have often been on account of other services) for calling attention to the extraordinary resolutions of the Congregational Board of London ministers passed on the 13th ult.

The remarks in your "Ecclesiastical Notes "are certainly strong, but not stronger than the circumstances

I have read the letter of Mr. Kennedy in your issue of this week carefully, but feel bound to say, with all respect, that, in my judgment, it is more remarkable for emphasis than for argument. Mr. Kennedy appears to me not only to ignore the rights and duties of the individual churches, but almost their very existence. Surely any church inviting a minister has quite as much interest in his character and his views of Christian truth as surrounding churches, or the ministers of surrounding churches, can possibly have.

If the London Board are of opinion that churches are not competent to make their own selection, it would be much more sensible and kind that they should require that, before any man is invited by a church to come amongst them, he should undergo the scrutiny proposed, in order that the church might be preserved from error, and from the very unseemly predicament of having invited a minister who may afterwards be rejected or disowned by these superior judges. Indeed, instead of your comparison to a presbytery or college of cardinals being unfounded or offensive, it is a reflection on such bodies. They are established-recognised-and understood. They have been duly appointed; their mode of action agreed upon and their authority admitted. But the London Board do not even mention the number of ministers (they evidently do not regard the addition of delegates or officers of churches as of importance, or at least as essential), they do not explain the area which is to constitute the "neighbourhood," nor the mode in which the presbytery, inquisition, or committee is to be Your correspondent, "Vigilans," constituted. pointed out the absence of, and the necessity for, an "authorised creed," if the resolutions of the Board are to be carried into effect. This is what I have always

The inadequacy and imperfect character of the resolutions is hinted at in your "Notes" and in the correspondence. This will be manifest on a moment's reflection. If it be admitted that some plan not at present in existence is required to prevent the recognition of unworthy or unsuitable characters as ministers, is it not necessary that the agency for securing this object shall be above suspicion and beyond doubt? Will not this require that those who are to constitute this agency, and who have been "recognised as ministers" by what Mr. Kennedy terms a "blind sham," shall themselves first undergo careful examination by a competent tribunal? And not only so, but that they shall be carefully selected and appointed by vote?

What would be the actual working of the scheme if it were as practical as it is crude and unwarrantable? I am acquainted with a locality where a church or churches and ministers are much wanted. In the event of the formation of a church, and the settlement of a minister, the nearest and oldest "local minister" to act on the "conference" would be agentleman who is famous for triennial, if not annual, quarrels and disruptions with and in his church, the last of which amounted to public brawls, taking the opposing parties into the police-court and filling the columns of newspapers throughout the

country. Another member of the same conference would be a gentleman who has publicly declared that "the voluntary principle is an ambiguous term," and who, when publicly charged with using long verbatim extracts from well-known published sermons without acknowledgment, refused to permit examination into the charge, choosing rather to allow judgment to go by

These, it is to be hoped, are unusual examples, but it is to be feared that numerous cases would be found where the infallibility of the judges would be pointed to as doubtful, and their decisions questioned, if not treated with contempt. I should be sorry to be supposed for a moment to intend any reflection upon the gentlemen forming the Congregational Board; indeed this is not possible, as I do not even know their names. I admit most fully the purity of their motives, but I cannot help believing their resolutions will be looked upon as an attempt to form one more "trades union" of a very objectionable character. It appears to me that what is required to secure the object they have in view, is not chiefly, if at all, greater vigilance and care on the part of ministers, but greater care and vigilance by the churches when inviting ministers. The formal recognitions as at present conducted may or may not be wise and necessary, but I believe they are not an unmixed good. For myself, I have always been disposed to regard the ceremony as the public recognition by the individual church of its own minister, to which ministers and members of other churches were invited as a matter of friendship and courtesy, rather than as the responsible and judicial act of such ministers and churches outside. This view appears to my mind more consistent with the principles of Independency than that apparently held by the Congregational Board; and if this view be correct, any gentleman invited is at liberty to be present or not, just as he pleases; but it appears to me that if there be anything in the character of the minister about to be recognised to cause any person invited to absent himself -that is, anything of a serious nature-it would be the duty of such person to communicate to the church such circumstance without delay. With regard to ordination, I have never been able to remove from my own mind the feeling that there is a good deal that smacks of superstition, if not of priestcraft, connected with it as at present practised by our churches. This, however, is another subject, and apart from that under discussion. For myself, I must hold fast by the freedom and scripturalness of our old and well-tried Independency. If I were inclined to modify or abandon it, I should insist upon something certain and deficite as a substitute. I believe that with all its defects, if judged by its fruits, it will compare favourably with any other; and that, taken as a whole, our ministers are at least equal in every respect to those of denominations which are supposed to possess much greater safeguards and more elaborate machinery for examination and detection than that proposed by the Congregational Board.

I am of opinion that the system is better than its adherents, that the fault is not in it, but in ourselves, and that what is required is that all who profess it shall act more worthily of the name they bear. If you will excuse the length of this, and find a place for it in

your next, you will oblige, Sir, respectfully yours,
WM. WARBURTON.

Salford, October 8, 1870.

THE REV. J. C. RYLE AND THE CHURCHES.

-A VOICE FROM THE ANTIPODES. To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,-Though distant from the mother country, we do not cease to be deeply interested in the vicissitudes and triumphs of the Kingdom of Christ; we cannot be indifferent, however prosperous our part of the field may be, if tares are sown in another. Christ's Church is one, not by mere combination, but in spirit, and this true unity did manifest itself in the Apostolic Ages, and for some time after, while the churches were all Independent and composed only of those who were born again by the Spirit, or who, at any rate, gave some evidence that they were such. But when the independence of the churches was invaded and Prelacy arose, corruption and division manifested themselves, and they fell an easy prey to the seductive offers of Imperial power. The Lord Jesus Christ was dethroned, and the halfconverted Constantine took His place, and thus the adulterous connection between the Church and the world was consummated. We all know the brood produced by this marriage-persecucion, tyranny, immorality, and ultimately such a corruption of Christ's religion that His kingdom seemed to have been transformed into the kingdom of Satan. Yet when the Reformation came, and purer doctrines were revived, though many false ones were retained, instead of returning to the original and apostolic institutions of independent and voluntary churches of true believers with pastors or bishops, as they were then called, and deacons, the reformers returned to the corrupt principles of the age of Constantine, the King took the place of the Pope, and in England imposed his own religion on the nation, and burnt those who were determined to follow Him who declared "My kingdom is not of this world."

My principal object in addressing you to-day, is to offer some comment on the letter of the Rev. J. C. Ryle, of which you give an epitome in your number of the 1st June. This gentleman is held to be a very Evangelical clergyman, and though the spirit of many of those who belong to his particular sect is very well known to those who have watched their conduct, and have had intercourse with them, there are many Christians who are quite ignorant of it. This ignorance Mr. Ryle has done his best to remove by the letter in question, for he tells us plainly that he is attached to all the corruptions of the religion promulgated by that ancient saint, Charles the Second, and his Parliament, and that he deems that religion far superior to the religion of Christ professed by the churches which have grown up and prospered and multiplied, in spite of the persecution of them by Mr. Ryle's caste. To be a Christian, that is, to be loved and approved by Christ, is not enough for him, for he says that for an Englishman that is not as good as to be a Churchman, and he has arrived at this conclusion-"as an honest man, a Bible-reader, and a close observer of human nature." He prefers "Church to chapel," that is, he prefers one kind of stone or brick and mortar to another! Though a certain Book says that God dwelleth not in temples made with hands, but where two or three meet in His name, Mr. Ryle's only idea of a "church" is a temple made with hands. His letter, as well as other productions of his pen, prove that he is quite ignorant of what a Christian Church is. I open the New Testament, and I find, without any exception, that it is merely a number of believers, who have been born again by the Holy Spirit, and who assemble in one place for worship, edification, or discipline, quite apart from their pastors (bishops) and deacons. In the 15th chapter of Acts we read, "And when they were come to Jerusalem they were received of the church," and of the apostles and elders, and previously, "and being brought on their way by the Church." And in the 5th chapter of 1st Corinthians, the apostle tells the Church to assemble, and exercise discipline by excluding the member who had offended. A number of congregations are never called a church, but always churches, and these were all independent of each other. At the end of the first century we learn from Clement's letter that the oburches were still congregational, for he does not write in the name of the Pope to "His Grace" at Corinth, but addresses it precisely as Congregational Churches do now, viz., "the Church of God which dwells at Rome to the Church of God sojourning at Corinth, to them that are called and sanctified by the will of God through our Lord Jesus Christ," Having seen that the apostolical churches were merely believers meeting in one place, let us now examine what is falsely called "the Church" of England, and we shall find that it never was nor is a Church now. When Paul and Barnabas came to Jerusalem about circumcision, "the Church" came together. When Henry VIII. discarded the Pope, did he call the, or a, "Church" together? Nothing of the kind. He merely promulgated certain Romish dogmas, and commanded the whole nation-believers, drunkards, swearers, Papists, and Protestants-to obey and believe them. Believe or burn! was the new gospel; and this was called "establishing the Church of England." Those who had a conscience were bung or burnt, -those who had none rewarded. When Edward VI. came to the throne another religion was promulgated, and punishment threatened to all who believed what Henry had commanded. Mary followed this laudable example, and burned Cranmer as he had burnt others. Elizabeth compelled the nation to change again; -and thus from one reign to another the people were constantly compolled, under pain of death, imprisonment, or fine, to leave the religion "of their fathers." But it is always the Church of England, except during Cromwell's time, who felt anxious to promote and protect the professors of pure religion. The house being swept clean, the unclean spirit returned in Charles II. This libertine and Roman Catholic was hailed by prelacy and immorality as a deliverer, and he promulgated another religion, as set down in the present Prayer-book, to be received and obeyed by the whole people, and again this mass of worldliness, infidelity, Popery, believers and unbelievers, was, and is, called the "Church of England." The world is the Church, and the Church is the world; and original founder of the system, was the restorer and

Every Englishman, whatever his character, may call himself a member of it. Discipline there is none, and there can be none. Do we ever hear of murderers, thieves, or other criminals being excluded from this so-called Church? Never. But 2,000 Evangelical clergymen were, on the promulgation of the present Prayer-book, driven from their homes with wives and children, because they would not declare their belief in, and assent to, the false and pernicious doctrine of that book. Not so the Rev. J. C. Ryle. He accepts it all, along with his salary. He has declared his unfeigned belief in the following things:-That an unbaptized baby is damned, and is not to receive Christian burial: that a few drops of water sprinkled on a baby regenerates its heart by the Holy Spirit, and transforms it into a child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven; and in the Catechism, and at confirmation, the young people are assured of the truth of this declaration; and, when they die, whatever their character has been, the mourners are told that the departed is saved. The Secretary of State, be he lufidel or believer, makes, according to Henry VIII.'s order

and arrangements, certain officers and calls them bishops, and these make the clergy, and communicate to them "the Holy Ghost," and the power "to forgive sins." And this succession from the Secretary of State is called apostolical succession.

These are only a few of the things which Mr. Ryle professes to receive, and which he finds in the Bible, though he refrains from saying where. Then, by Act of Parliament, he dare not read from the Scriptures what may be suitable, but what Charles II. ordered, until it shall please the present Parliament of Roman Catholics, Wesleyans, Independents, Baptists, Presbyterians, Jews, &c., to ordain otherwise; for these are the masters whom Mr. Ryle must obey.

Furthermore, he dare not pray in the congregation, but must only read a collection of other people's prayers as ordered by Charles the Second; and because Inde-pendents and Baptists prefer to follow apostolic order and commands, and, according to Christ's rule, demand equal rights for all, and will not allow His Kingdom to be degraded into a mere worldly and political system, Mr. Ryle shamelessly calls them political Dissenters. He knows that he is the minister of this political system—that he is subject to and governed, not by Christ's but by worldly law—that the person who made him a clergyman, the bishop, is a political officer, and is a member of a political assembly, and that on the contrary Independence and Baptist, like all true ministers, are called to that office by Christ, and that their churches neither ask favour or pecuniary support from the Government; pay that their members are compelled to enter the political arens solely to free the cause of Christ from the corruption which Mr. Ryle and his friends maintain and foster—yet he coolly reviles them as political Dissenters, and because they have laboured and succeeded in freeing Ireland from the political establishment, which was a scandal to the cause of Christ, to Protestantism, and to England, he threatened them with his displeasure, as if that was of any consequence. He does not seem to understand and appreciate the forbearance which Christian ministers exercise in associating with him, who is not the minister of a Church at all, but merely of a political system.

Let Mr. Ryle examine and try to carry out the law ordained by Christ for His Churches, and he will see the truth of my assertion. Our Lord gave a rule to His disciples that if an offending brother refused to yield to private remonstrances they were to tell it to the Church, and if he would not hear the Church, he was to be regarded as a heathen and a publican. Independents and Baptists do carry out this law to the letter. Will Mr. Ryle tell us if he can obey it? If there had been any "Church" of Ireland, why is it necessary to form one now? Seeing, then, that it is a gross misnomer to call these worldly systems" Churches, is it not high time to disown that name and not to call those "Churchmen" who belong to no Church? They are merely professors of the religion ordained by Parlia ment, and these are again subdivided into various sects denouncing each other, and furnishing converts to the Papacy. Mr. Gladstone has lately told us that he thinks a large majority of the people of England are adherents of the Parliamentary religion, and yet he knows that only five out of twenty millions were attending in the national places of worship on the Census Sunday. He told us further, to look at the bulwarks and the depth of the foundations of the Establishment in England. I wish he would dig and examine the foundations, and he would find the bones of many of the noblest Christians who were murdered and ruined by the system because they were determined to obey Christ rather than man Mr. Gladstone evidently shuts his eyes to the signs of the times. For 1,500 years State Churches have corrupted and hindered the progress of Christ's religion, and their end is fast approaching, and will come sooner than statesmen fancy. Being opposed to the will of God, they are doomed.

Yours truly, F. HALLER.

F. HALLI Melbourne, 13th August, 1870.

At the annual book-trade sale of New York, when the auctioneers reached Mrs. Stowe's book on Lord Byron, it was found impossible to get a bid for it. Half a cent. a volume was offered amidst shouts of derision. At last the lot was sold for about its value at the paper-mill.

TAKING THE CENSUS.—Three Acts were passed in the late session for taking the census of the United Kingdom. The first statute has reference to Ireland, and is the only one directing the "religious profession" to be stated. The census is to be taken on Monday, the 3rd of April next, by the Dublin Police and the Irish Constabulary, as the Lord-Lieutenant shall direct. The information to be obtained in Ireland is as to the persons who shall have been in each house on Sunday, the 2nd of April, as to their sex, age, religious profession, birthplace, and occupation. The Act relating to Ireland is the 33rd and 34th, cap. 80. The next statute has reference to England, and the Secretary of State has the superintendence of taking the census, as to the names, sex, age, rank, profession, and occupation. Schedules are to be left at the houses in the week ending the 1st of April, and to be collected on Monday, the 3rd of April. There is no ensetment as to a "religious census."

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

On the 5th the Royal headquarters were transferred to Versailles. The King previously inspected the position of the 6th Army Corps. Several batteries for heavy siege guns have been constructed on the hills between Sèvres, St. Cloud, and Bougival. At St. Cloud a mortar battery menaces the Champs Elysées, the Avenue de l'Impératrice, and the Quartier Haussmann. The redoubt at Villejuif, being commanded by the forts of Bicetre and Ivry, has been abandoned by the Germans, and is recocupied by the French. The Germans have completed their redoubts in Jerome Napoleon's park at Mendon, and on Brinborion hill, near Sevres. The latter threaten Auteuil, Passy, and Grenelle. The railway bridges between La Ferté and Meaux having been restored, the Germans can now bring up their artilery park, weighing 5,000 tons. Trains run day and night. Paris will probably be summoned to surrender before the bombardment commences.

Aspecial correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, who has arrived from the King of Prussia's head-quarters at Versailles, states that the Germans are making immense preparations for the bombardment of Paris from the south and south-western sides.

of Paris from the south and south-western sides.

The best artillerists and engineers in the German army have been actively engaged in placing the slegg guns. The shot and shell from some of the guns will sweep over the defending batteries and fall into the heart of Paris. The soldiers laughingly say that the gay Parisians will soon be sick of these bon-bons. Many of the most experienced officers think that the German fire will silence that of the forts. The bom-bardment is expected to begin at the commencement of the week. It is said that the King will formally ask for the surrender of the city before fire is opened.

In a latter dated Oct. 2 the special correspondent.

In a letter dated Oct. 2 the special correspondent of the Times speaks of the defenders of Paris as being busily employed in connecting the line of forts by strong earthworks and in throwing up redoubts. Several works, such as that of Genevilliers, may be considered as regular fortresses, and a considerable redoubt is also nearly made near Point-du-Jour.

Mr. H. Conybeare, a correspondent of the Times, thinks that the Forts d'Issy and de Vanvres will be the first to be seriously attacked, and the Point du Jour cannonaded, with the probable object of gaining positions from which Paris could be more effectually bombarded, in case she persisted in holding out after those forts had fallen. He points out that Fort d'Issy has been already partially insulated by the work at Sèvres, intended to defend it from the west, having been captured and turned against it, and also that it is commanded within Chassepot range by the height of Clamart. But Dr. Russell mentions that the gap between Valérien and Issy has been filled up by Trochu's assiduity.

There has been some fighting in the neighbourhood of Paris. A body of German cavalry, estimated at 4,000, were attacked on the 5th by General Reyan at Toury, a place some fifty-five miles from Paris, and obliged to retreat to Estampes, which is twenty-five miles nearer Versailles. The French report says:—"General Reyan made a thorough reconnaissance of the enemy's strength, and ascertained the presence of the Princes Albert of Saxe-Meiningen and Saxe-Altenburg. General Reyan captured from the enemy a herd of cattle, including 147 cows and fifty-two sheep, which have been sent on to Arthenay. The French made twenty prisoners, one of whom is a courier of Prince Albert." The Prussians afterwards evacuated Pithiviers in haste, leaving behind them a convoy of cattle. The French who fought at Toury appear to have been the advanced post of the Army of the Loire.

Apparently, a portion of the army of the Crown

Apparently, a portion of the army of the Crown Prince went south again in greater strength, for the Commander-in-Chief of the 13th Corps (French) thus telegraphs from Orleans on Monday night:—

This morning, at about half-past nine o'clook, Arthenay, where the Brigade Londuerne and several companies of Chasseurs were encamped, was attacked by considerable forces and occupied by the enemy, General Reyan went immediately to the support of the brigade with five regiments, four battalious, and an 8-pounder battery. After a resistance, which lasted till 2.30 p.m., our troops were driven back to the forest, which I still occupy, and will defend at any price. In this engagement the enemy's forces were superior to ours in infantry, cavalry, and especially in artillery.

The German accounts of this affair inform us that the force which met the French was a composite corps made up of troops belonging to the army of the Crown Prince, and commanded by the Bavarian General Von der Tann. The French lost three guns and 1,000 prisoners, and when last heard of were flying towards Orleans pursued by the enemy's cavalry. They appear to have been themselves without cavalry, as they were in Thursday's battle in the Vosges. This is a most unfortunate beginning for the Army of the Loire. From the latest telegrams, it would appear that General Von der Tann was determined to put the value of the Army of the Loire to the test. He had followed the enemy to Orleans, and was fighting outside that city yesterday. Reinforcements of artillery and infantry had been sent to General Reyan from Tours and Bourges.

GERMAN DESPATCH ON THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

The following Prussian memorandum has been communicated to the Powers:—

communicated to the Powers:—

The terms of the armistice communicated to M. Jules Favre, and destined to usher in an attempt to restore order in France, have been rejected by him and his colleagues, who have resolved on the continuation of a struggle which, after all that has happened, must be regarded as hopeless by the French nation. Since the rejection of our terms any chances of victory France may have had in this pernicious war must have considerably diminished. Toul and Strasbourg have fallen, Paris is closely invested, and the German troops have penetrated to Loire. The considerable forces so long detained by the two conquered fortresses are now, therefore, free for employment in another direction. France will have to bear the consequences of the resolution taken by her rulers to engage in a struggle à l'outrance. Her sacrifices will uselessly increase, and the destruction of her social system will be all but inevitable. The commander of the German army regrets his inability to prevent this; but he clearly foresees the results of the resistance recklessly determined upon by the rulers of France, and deems it necessary to draw attention to one point in particular—that is the state of Paris. The two more important emgagements before the capital—those of the 19th and 30th of Sept.—in which attention to one point in particular—that is the state of Paris. The two more important emgagements before the capital—those of the 19th and 30th of Sept.—in which the most effective portion of the enemy's forces did not succeed in repulsing even the front line of the investing troops, justify the conclusion that sooner or later Paris must fall. In the event of the capitulation being put off by the Provisional Government till the want of provisions compels the surrender, terrible consequences will ensue. The absurd destruction of railways, bridges, and canals within a certain distance of Paris has not stayed the progress of the German armies for a moment; and all communications by land and water necessary for our purposes have been restored in a very short period. But we have only restored what we require for the military objects we have in view, and enough remains demolished to interrupt easy communication between capital and provinces for a long time to come. The German commander in the case above-mentioned will find it absolutely impossible to provision a population of nearly two millions even for a single day. Neither will the neighbourhood of Paris for a distance of many marches supply any means of succouring the Parisians, all that there is in it haing indispensably required for marches supply any means of succouring the Parisians, all that there is in it being indispensably required for the troops. Nor shall we be able to remove a portion of the population by the country roads, as we have no available means of transport. The inevitable consequence of this will be that hundreds of thousands will starve. The French rulers cannot but foresee this as clearly as ourselves. We can only fight out the quarrel forced upon us, but those who bring on such extreme consequences will be responsible for them.

INSIDE PARIS.

The Pall Mall Gazette publishes a letter from its Paris correspondent, dated Monday, Oct. 3. The letter has been received by balloon post. The following is the most interesting passage:—"Paris itself is quiet, and the people, confident in the power of the Republic, are determined to fight to the last. Every attempt made by demagogues to disturb the Provisional Government has failed, and there is a tacit understanding now that all party quarrels should be laid aside until after the war. Though the National Guards and Mobiles are not pulling very well together, I have come to the conclusion that the professional jealousies between the two corps will not have any serious results. In the encounters which have taken place outside the walls the Line has not behaved well, and several examples have been made. But with the Mobiles the case is different. Their conduct in the face of the enemy has been unimpeachable, and I have only heard of one instance of a Mobile having committed a gross breach of discipline. He was shot yesterday for rape and robbery. On Friday last there was severe fighting. A strong reconnaissance was made by the French, who tumbled,
as usual, into a kind of ambush, and were driven
back with heavy loss. The battle-field remained in
the hands of the Germans, who speak highly of the
courage of the French soldiers, but say that they
are badly led, and further, that they were well aware
that this service was about to be made as they had that this sortic was about to be made, as they had received notice of it from friends in Paris. We are very badly off here for meat, as there is some diffi-culty between the butchers and the Government. I rather suspect that the sheep and cattle have been dying for want of proper food, and that there is a scarcity, which is beginning to be severely felt. Paris was much grieved yesterday to learn of the fall and Strasbourg; and the statue of the latter town is to be cast in bronze, in memory of Uhrich's

The following is a summary of the news at Tours from Paris by the last balloons:—The Journal Official of the 5th contains an article upon the pain felt by the people of Paris at the absence of news, and at the same time warns its readers against the exaggerated statements due to public rumour.
General Guilham, who was killed in the engagement
of the 30th ult., has been buried in the Invalides.
At the Sablonville Guard a torpedo had accidentally At the Sablonville Guard a torpedo had accidentally exploded, injuring eight persons. The Journal Officiel of the 6th publishes an article appealing to the patriotism of the Republican party to put an end to armed manifestations such as had taken place the previous day for the second time within a fortnight. "Such manifestations," adds the Official Journal, "possess the great fault of constituting an appearance of sedition which in reality does not exist. The ance of sedition which in reality does not exist. The enemy, arrested before Paris by a resistance upon which he had not calculated, knows that he will be kept for many long months in check, and that a forced attack upon the enceinte is impossible; his duty, therefore, is to avoid even the appearance of discord." only hope is in dissensions amongst us; our first

This article is followed by a report of M. de

Kératry, proposing the examination of a project for the immediate suppression of the Prefecture of Police; and the Government orders M. de Kératry to draw up a project with that object. The military report of the evening of the 5th says that a reconnaissance that morning in the direction of Clamart had been successful. The Journal Officiel of the 7th contains a proglamation of the Government, com-Police; and the Government orders M. de Kératry to draw up a project with that object. The military report of the evening of the 5th says that a reconnaissance that morning in the direction of Clamart had been successful. The Journal Official of the 7th contains a proclamation of the Government, communicating to the inhabitants news it had received of the organisation of the national forces in the departments. The proclamation announces that two agmies have already been formed, of about 80 000 armies have already been formed, of about 80,000 men each; and that a third gathering of troops is taking place, consisting of regulars, volunteers, and s. An official note says :- "There are at present at the disposal of the Government in the departments 36 field batteries of rifled 12-pounders and 4-pounders, and a large supply of war material and rifles; between four and five million cartridges are being manufactured weekly." A Ministerial order had been issued, fixing the price of meat until the 13th October at three frances the kilogramme.

Letters from Paris place it beyond a doubt that Jules Favre's attempt to bring about an armistice and negotiations made a very bad impression there. A Vichy paper has published a letter received by balloon by the Prefect of the Loire from M. Dorian, the Present Minister of Public Works in which here the Present Minister of Public Works, in which he says that the news of the step taken by Favre "caused very marked discontent on the part of the National Guard, and a manifestation was made by the chiefs of battalions." They were pacified by explanations, but it is said that had an armistice been obtained it might well have led to civil war in Paris. M. Dorian adds:—"The Prussians may burn Paris; they will never take it! I tell you that it two words, but I affirm to you that it is the universal continuent." universal sentiment.'

A letter from Paris, dated 28th September, states that the attitude of the National and Mobile Guard was admirable. Twenty-one deserters who were panic-stricken in the affair at Courbevoie were to be shot. Certain articles of consumption were steadily increasing in price. Fresh butter was twelve france per kilogramme. The balloon posts leave every two days. The manufacture of mitrailleuses is being actively carried on in Paris, and each battalion will soon have one of its own. Electric lights, similar to those in the forts around Paris, are being established on the ramparts to prevent nocturnal surprises. An official decree has been issued that the gates of Paris be opened at seven a.m. and closed at 7 r.m. rans be opened at seven a.m. and closed at 7 r.m. from the lat of October. A large number of peasants have been set to work by the Prussians erecting works of defence on the Terrace of Meudon. The dome of the Invalides is being covered with "toile grise," to protect it from fire. The windows of the Galerie des Antiquités and those of the interior courts of the Louvre are protected by sacks filled with earth. The sculpture is being covered with with earth. The sculpture is being covered with plaster as a protection against fire. Extensive mili-tary manœuvres take place every morning in the Champ de Mars, and the troops are exercised in shooting. All the locomotives upon the railroads are shooting. All the locomotives upon the railroads are being furnished with breast-plates, rendering them shot-proof. The Government has under consideration a proposal of M. Gambetta, authorising the director of the Mont de Piété to return gratuitously all articles of clothing and linen upon which the advances do not exceed 15 francs. The proposal, if adopted, will involve an expense of 3,000,000f. to the Government. A Red Club holds its meetings in various quarters under the presidency of M. Blangui. various quarters, under the presidency of M. Blanqui. ates that the whole population, like an army, ought to be restricted to certain rations. Various

other measures much more violent are discussed.

It is stated that Mr. Herbert has established a species of soup-kitchen for the English residents (more than 300 in number), still remaining in Paris. Mr. Wallace, the heir of Lord Hertford, who has already given the munificent donation of 12,000% to the Ambulance Fund, has also provided funds for their most pressing warts.

their most pressing wants.

In the Place of the Pantheon, and several other squares in Paris, the paving-stones are being taken up, because they will if left explode shells which may strike them. The windows of the Louvre and other

strike them. The windows or the Louise public edifices are being filled with sandbags. The Ultras of the besieged capital have got a tests in La Patrie en Danger. This journal to their taste in La Patrie en Danger. I print has been exclaiming, "Long live Marat!" shed the blood of traitors and cowards.

Surgeon-Major Wyatt is at Paris in connection with the hospitals for the wounded. In a letter dated the 1st inst. he gives an excellent account of the good order prevailing in the capital. The physique of the Garde Mobile from the country is admirable. "I should be very glad to see such recruits for the Guards—stout, sturdy lads of 5ft. 10in., with good broad shoulders and expansive chests, and legs to match. I watch them by thousands, but have not yet seen anything like an air of despondency. They are as cheerful as larks, and commence singing about as early in the morning. It is a curious sight to witness their departure for the fortifications, laden heavily, and with their fixed bayonets thrust through gigantic loaves of bread enough to sustain half-a-dozen people. Each day's tiny newspaper informs us of some new establishment at which horseflesh can be procured, and to-day we are informed of the nutritious qualities of bullock's blood. Meat is getting very difficult to procure, and especially so, I regret to say, is money. The Prussians have now certainly lost all chance of any possible success by assault, for the delay has rendered the place almost impregnable, which seems to be the unanimous opinion of well-informed people here. I only hope that the available resources within the walls are as great in munitions of food for the inhabitants as they

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS AGAIN POSTPONED.

The French Minister of the Interior has escaped from Paris in a balloon. He first appeared in the neighbourhood of Amiens on Saturday; and reached Rouen in the evening, where he met with an enthusiastic reception from the people and the National Guard, and made a speech in which he ex-National Guard, and made a speech in which he exhorted the citizens to swear to conquer or die; and then left for Tours. M. Gambetta, it is said, intends to organise a war à outrance. We are not left in doubt as to the immediate cause of his sërial journey; he has gone to Tours to replace the delegation of the Government there, which has utterly broken down. Admiral Fourichon has resigned. M. Glais-Bizoin is a nonentity, and poor old M. Crémieux, who has just completed a series of mistakes by making himself. completed a series of mistakes by making himself Minister of War, can no longer be trusted. M. Gambetta, therefore, has been armed with all the powers which the Government of Paris can confer. Before he left Paris the Central Government had been compelled to issue a decree, signed by all its members, annulling and reversing the decree of the Tours Delegation of September 29, which appointed the 16th of October as the day for the elections to the Constituent Assembly. It knows how difficult the Government of France by Paris has become, that for nine days the departments have been preparing for these elections without a suspicion that the design of holding them was contrary to the intentions of the Central Government. The members of the latter remark that " the resolution of the Tours delegation can only be the result of a misunderstanding"—that "it is in opposition with the degree of the Government of the National Defence, which is alone binding"; and that, "besides, the execution of such a resolution is materially impossible in twenty-three departments, and necessarily incomplete in the others." It is further remarkable that we obtain the text of this decree from a German source. It was picked up by German troops, apparently near Paris, in its official form and with all the original signatures. Probably copies were committed to balloons, on the chance of some of them finding their way to their destination. The date of this degree, October 1st, would furnish an objection to its genuineness if we had no confirmation of its authority from other than German sources. It purports to have been "done at the Hotel de Ville the first of October, 1870"; whereas there are several letters from Paris of later date making no mention of the matter. But the telegrams from Amiens and Rouen, announcing M. Gambetta's arrival there, inform us that a decree of the Central Government adjourns the general elections. Up to Friday last the Tours Delegation continued to issue regulations for the general elections.

BALLOON EXPRESSES FROM PARIS.

BALLOON EXPRESSES FROM PARIS.

The following are the particulars of M. Gambetta's balloon journey:—He left the heights of Montmatre on Friday morning at eleven o'clock in a balloon called the "Armand-Barbés," accompanied by his secretary, M. Spuller, and M. Trichet, an aeronaut. A second balloon also ascended at the same time, in which were three American gentlemen, the sub-prefect of Redon, and an aeronaut. An immense crowd was collected to see the departure of the two balloons. M. Gambetta was accompanied by several of his colleagues. All heartily wished him success in his perilous enterprise, and in the great mission he has undertaken in the provinces. M. Nadar, who has directed the construction of the balloons, superintended their departure. At first the balloons, superintended their departure. At first the balloons, superintended their departure. At first the balloons travelled nearly side by side, and the travellers in the two cars could converse. While passing above the Prussian lines, M. Gambetta and his companions escaped death twenty times. The Prussians kept up a continual fire upon them, and the balls flew whistling round the cars. Up to three o'clock in the afternoon the two balloons remained in view of each other in the same direction. Mained in view of each other in the same direction.
At three o'clock they separated; but they were already very near the spot at which they might descend. One of them, the "Georges Sand," descended without obstacle near Roye. The "Armand-Barbés" got caught in a tree near Montdidier. The descent of M. Gambetta and M. Spuller was perilous in the extreme; but some peasants and a gentleman passing by in a carriage came to the assistance of the travellers. M. Gambetta only received a few scratches. It is needless to say how warm a welcome the party received both at Roye and Montdidier. They arrived at Amiens in the evening. The aeronauts brought three carrier pigeons in a cage with them, which will carry back to Paris the news of M. Gambetta's journey.

Mr. Reynolds, of New York (one of the American gentlemen referred to), gives the following account:—
"The weather was fine, and the wind light. A crowd was assembled to see us off—the members of the Government, M. Louis Blanc, &c. We rose, amidst cries of Vive la République! to the height of 700 metres, passing over the Prussian lines. The wind falls; we hear cannon-shots; we see signals; a well-sustained fusillade commences; the balls hiss on all sides. Gambetta's balloon is above ours. Obuses are shot to try and burst the balloon. The moment is a trying one. The wind gets up. We advance rising, falling frequently to make a reconnaissance of the Prussians. At three o'clock we lost sight of Gambetta at Creil. He descended too near, and was an object for the Prussian balls. The balloon had a hole made in it, and his hand was grazed. At four we reached land at Roye. The peasants were terrified and would not come near, but soon the better class came in their carriages and gave us a welcome greeting. We found Gambetta at Amiens; he descended near a wood on the other side, which was occupied by Prussians. At Amiens Gambetta received an enthusiastic ovation. There is no discord in Paris."

"A Berlin telegram says:—Balloons are daily sent

"A Berlin telegram says:—Balloons are daily sent off from Paris, and are carried by the prevailing easterly winds to the provinces which are unoccupied by the Germans. They are followed by light cavalry as long as they continue in sight. Two balloons with complete official correspondence have been continued."

with complete official correspondence have been captured."

The special correspondent of the Telegraph at Tours writes on the 4th—"M. Tissandier, the gentleman who descended on us by the last balloon, has left this night for Lyons, with the intention of buying there some thousands of yards of silk to construct a number of monster machines. It appears that there are no balloons in France fit for the dangerous and delicate journey into Paris, excepting one which the Prussians have seized. The Government has appropriated a sum of money for the instant fabrication of six, fitted with all new discoveries and comforts, to be used on the return journey. In about comforts, to be used on the return journey. In about ten days, as is believed, the first of these will be completed, at a cost of 1,000l. to 1,200l., and therein M. Tissandier will attempt to reach the city."

A Belgian paper (Nouvelles du Jour) gives an "extraordinary" account of a battle in the air between M.

Nadar's Intrepide and one sent up by the Prussians. The latter is said to have enticed M. Nader by hoisting false colours. His balloon was injured by a shot, but the injury was repaired, and Nader reascended to the charge. Several shots were rapidly fired from the Intrepide into the Prussian balloon, which, losing all power, descended to the earth with giddy velocity. Such is the account, to which some apparently corroborative statements are ap-

pended

M. GAMBETTA'S PROCLAMATION.

M. Gambetta has issued the following proclama-tion, dated 9th October, addressed to the citizens of

By order of the Republican Government, I have left Paris to convey to you the hopes of the Parisian people, and the instructions and orders of those who accepted the mission of delivering France from the foreigner.

For seventeen days Paris has been invested, and offers

For seventeen days Paris has been invested, and offers the spectacle of two millions of men who, forgetting all differences to range themselves around the Republican flag, will disappoint the expectation of the invader, who reckoned upon civil discord. The Revolution found Paris without cannon and without arms. Now 400,000 National Guards are armed, 100,000 Mobiles have been summoned, and 60,000 regular troops are assembled. The foundries cast cannon, the women make one million cartridges daily. The National Guard have two mitrailleuses for each battalion, Field-pieces are being made for sorties against the besiegers. The forts are manned by marines, and are furnished with marvellous artillery, served by the first gunners in the world. Up till now their fire has prevented the enemy from establishing the smallest work. The enceinte, which, on the 4th September, had only 500 cannons, has now 3,800, with 400 rounds of ammunition for each.

The casting of projectiles continues with ardour.

3,800, with 400 rounds of ammunition for each.

The casting of projectiles continues with ardour.

Everyone is at the post assigned to him for fighting.

The enceinte is uninterruptedly covered by the National Guard, who from morning until night drill for the war with patriotism and steadiness. The experience of these improvised soldiers increases daily.

Behind the enceinte there is a third line of defence, formed of barricades, behind which the Parisians are found to defend the Republic—the genius of street fighting. All this has been executed with calmness and order by the concurrence and enthusiasm of all. It is not a vain illusion that Paris is impregnable. It is not a vain illusion that Paris is impregnable. It cannot be captured nor surprised. Two other means remain to the Prussians—sedition, and famine. But sedition will not arise, nor famine either.

sedition will not arise, nor famine either.

Two other means remain to the Prussians—sedition and famine. But sedition will not arise, nor famine either. Paris, by placing herself on rations, has enough to defy the enemy for long months, thanks to the provisions which have been accomulated, and will bear retainst and constants with manks constants in order to straint and scarcity with manly constancy in order to afford her brothers in the departments time to gather. Such is, without disguise, the state of Paris. This state impress great drives many new The first is to state imposes great duties upon you. The first is to have no other occupation than the war; the second is to accept fraternally the supremacy of the Republican power, emanating from necessity and right, which will serve no ambition. It has no other passion than to rescue France from the abyss into which Monarchy has plunged her. This done, the Republic will be founded, sheltered against conspirators and reactionists. Therefore I have the order, without taking into account difficulties or opposition, to remedy and, although time culties or opposition, to remedy and, although time fails, to make up by activity the shortcomings caused by delay. Men are not wanting. What has failed us has been a decisive resolution, and the consecutive execution of our plans. That which failed us after the shameful capitulation at Sedan was arms. All supplies of this nature had been sent on to Sedan, Metz, and Strasbourg, as if, one would think, the authors of our disaster, by a last criminal combination, had desired at their fall to deprive us of all means of repairing our ruin. Steps have now been taken to obtain rifles and equipments from all parts of the world. Neither workmen nor funds are wanting. We must bring to bear all our resources, which are immense; we must make the pro-vinces shake off their torpor, react against foolish panics, multiply our partisans, offer traps and ambushes to harass the enemy and inaugurate a national war. The Republic demands the co-operation of all. It will utilise the courage of all its citizens, employ the capabilities of each, and, according to its traditional policy, will make young men its chiefs. Heaven itself will will make young men its chiefs. Heaven itself will cease to favour our adversaries; the autumn rains will He meets an officer of high rank, who at the begin-

come, and, detained and held in check by the capital, far from their homes, troubled and anxious for the future, the Prussians will be decimated one by one by

future, the Prussians will be decimated one by one by our arms, by hunger, and by Nature.

No, it is not possible that the genius of France should be for evermore obscured; it cannot be that a great nation shall let its place in the world be taken from it by an invasion of 500,000 men. Up, then, in a mass, and let us die rather than suffer the shame of dismemberment. In the midst of our disasters we have still the sentiment left of Franch unity and the indivisibility of the Republic. Paris, surrounded by the enemy, affirms more loudly and more gloriously than ever the immortal device which is dictated to the whole of France:

"Long live the Republic! Long live France! Long live the Republic, one and indivisible."

ENGAGEMENT IN THE VOSGES

There has been a considerable battle in the Vosge According to the French account—"There was redecisive result on either side. We maintained outpositions." The German account contains statepositions." The German account contains statements exactly the opposite of these. The scene of the battle is more precisely indicated in the German than it was in the French account. Etival, the head-quarters of the German general, St. Remy, and Nompatelize are just to the north of the Forêt de Montagne, and the town of St. Diey on the Upper Meurthe, thus in the eastern portion of the department of the Vosgos. As long as the Germans were merely driving back the great armies of the Empire, or advancing on Paris, the department of the Vosges was scarcely touched, very few troops besides Uhlans having gone south of Luneville. It is probably in order to take securities against the mustering of Francs-tireurs that the department has now been invaded, or it may be that the German now been invaded, or it may be that the German force here engaged was a detachment sent through at Diey to clear the flank of the force moving from Strasbourg to attack Schlettstatt (Gallice, Schelestat), which little fortress is in the Rhine valley at the extremity of the cross-road, or pass, above mentioned. The French corps, which is stated upon the reports of prisoners to have numbered 14,000 men, consisted partly of troops of the line and partly of Garde Mobile. The German General represents his own force at about 7,000. The French report had estimated it at 8,000 or 10,000. Each had two batteries of artillery, but the Germans appear to have had two squadrons of Dragoons. The French were under General Pethevin, who had come up from the south; the Gerhevin, who had come up from the south; the German troops were Badeners, and this was the first battle the Baden division had fought as an independent force. The villages of St. Reny and Nompatilize and the wood of Jumelles were carried at the point of the bayonet. The French appear to have fought with their old courage, as we are told that they made three very vigorous onslaughts, each of which was repulsed. The battle ended in a victory for the Germans, who took sixty officers and 600 prisoners unwounded. Their own loss was twenty officers and 410 men killed and wounded; that of the French is estimated at about three times that number. After seven hours' fighting the French were routed, and flying to Rambervillers. The cavalry would enable the Germans to pick up many prisoners in the pursuit. The Germans bivouacked on the field of battle.

THE FRENCH DEPARTMENTS. A special correspondent of the Standard, writing from Tours and Bourges, gives the result of his observations on the efforts now making to organise an Army of the Loire:—"In Normandy he found a great deal of military activity, principally directed to the defence of Rouen and Havre. At Bourges, so he heard at Tours, an army was being formed to consist of 80,000 men. an army was being formed to consist of 80,000 men. At Tours the young troops are drilled with the old-fashioned muzzle-loader until the day before their departure, when they receive a few lessons in the manual exercise of the chassepot. The really weak point of the Army of the Loire at Bourges will be the field artillery. The sole idea of the authorities at present appears to be to get men to the front, and to rely upon the marine reserves for artillery. To this rely upon the marine reserves for artillery. To this army of Bourges no officer has yet been appointed in command; it is being organised in sections, and not until a few days have passed will there be any nomi nation. As for the Army of the Rhone, the result of inquiry was that it exists as yet only in idea. The reorganisation of the fugitives from Sedan gives infinite trouble at Tours. On various slopes round the city there are camps where the work is being attempted, but it is a most difficult affair. Wearing all kinds of uniforms, the fugitives have at present no esprit de corps, and appear to be thoroughly demoralised. The Zouaves, in particular, are dirty, careless of their arms and accountements, reckless of speech and action, and go about the streets intoxicated. The infantry of the marine, on the other hand, are a fine body, but the free corps and the Norman and Breton Mobiles make an exceedingly favourable impression Mobiles make an exceedingly favourable impression. The Mobiles of the south are not distinguished by nearly so much physical power. Indeed, many of them which have been seen at Tours are mere boys of seventeen or eighteen, and the rest are chiefly or seventeen or eighteen, and the rest are chiefly undersized, badly fed, and badly set up. But all of them appear to be full of spirit, and not in the least likely to fail their officers when called upon. At Bourges the correspondent finds things not at all to his military ideas. He spends a whole day in going from one military station to another in and round the city, and sees a little marching and counter-marching; a good deal of lounging and emobine and doning a good deal of lounging, and smoking, and dominoplaying, and caramboling at billiards; some assem-bling and dismissing of Mobiles; but not one attempt

ning is as vague and unsatisfactory as the rest, but who, after a while, takes him to his house and fairly opens his heart. He has served in the Crimea, in Algeria, in Italy, and so knows what real work is. He does not conceal his great anxiety. The want of artillery and skilled artillerymen is serious, still more so the terrible want of discipline, which has been aggravated by the declaration of the Republic; the men know very little of drill, and they are not willing to learn; the officers do not care about teaching them. In the face of a good German division they would be like a lot of untrained dogs, individually plucky, but utterly unable to act together. He complained, further, that the army was too much scattered to be available for any effective movement at a day's notice. The 80,000 men of whom the Army of the Loire and Cher is composed are at Tours, Blois, Orleans, Vierson, Bourges, and Nevers (that is over a line of some 130 odd miles), as a base, while the front occupies quite 190 miles. And in the army the regulars are in the proportion of about one to nine. Subsequently the correspondent sees General de la Motte Rouge, the General who is to organise the Army of the Loire. He is all hope. He declares that he has 80,000 men, all armed, with suitable ammunition for the whole of them."

Complaints continue to arrive from all parts of France of the insubordination manifested by the

Complaints continue to arrive from all parts of France of the insubordination manifested by the troops. At Grenoble General Mounet has had to troops. At Grenoble General Mounet has had to submit to the same fate as General Ambert at Paris and General Mazure at Lyons, and has been imprisoned by his own men. General Mounet, commander of the garrison at Grenoble, is a Crimean veteran. A number of the citizens, believing that his authority would prove an obstacle to their designs, made a manifestation before the Prefecture, and ultimately broke into the building. The general ordered out the troops, but the citizens, who got hold of the Prefect, induced him by intimidation to order General Mounet to withdraw his men. They then went in a body to his hotel, and there forced him to resign, and compelled the Prefect to order his arrest; and the old soldier had to spend the night in gaol like a common malefactor.

like a common malefactor.

At Lyons the evils of military insubordination have been added to those of civil discord. The recent conduct of the troops has compelled the Prefect to issue a decree in which he refers to the recent in-stances of insubordination and disorder which have stances of insubordination and disorder which have occurred as well among the Garde Mobile as among the soldiers, and decrees that henceforth the rules of military discipline shall be strictly enforced. No soldiers or Garde Mobile will be allowed out of quarters after nine p.m., and soldiers will not be allowed to take part in military demonstrations in front of the Hotel de Ville. It is evident that a general with a strong hand is wanted at Lyons, but the Prefect is invested with authority which permits him to imprison generals without trying them, or even charging them with any offence, and indiscipline among ing them with any offence, and indiscipline among the troops is the natural consequence of its recent exercise. General Mazure protests against his imprisonment, but no heed is paid to him. General Cluseret has escaped to Geneva.

At Marseilles an order has been issued for the incorporation of all students in seminaries, ecclesiastical students, members of religious congregations, and the Brothers of Christian Doctrine, in the army, the Garde Mobile, or the Garde Nationale. Colonel Marie, of the National Garde of Marseilles, has resigned, has protested against the order of M. Esquiros for a re-election of officers, as likely to produce disorganisation, and has announced that he shall offer himself for re-election by universal

suffrage of the people.

The Municipality of Lyons have contracted for 250,000 muskets, with ammunition to correspond; 150,000 of these will be placed at the disposal of the

neighbouring departments.
The foundries of Bourges and the Midi are actively

manufacturing cannon. The Prussians took possession of Beauvais on Friday night, entering the town from various directions with such promptitude, that a watchman stationed on the tower of the cathedral had no time to give the alarm to the municipality, who were as-sembled to deliberate in which direction the enemy's advance should be opposed. The Prussians immediately placed a guard at the Hotel de Ville, where the arms of the Garde Nationale were deposited, by order of the Commanding General. At the request of the Prefect, thirty of the National Guard were allowed to retain their arms, to maintain order in the town. The Prussian Commander stated that he intended making Beauvais a victualling centre, from whence detachments would be sent to make requisi-

tions upon the surrounding country.

GARIBALDI AT TOURS.

The report that Garibaldi had arrived at Marseilles turns out to be correct. He left that place at two o'clock on Saturday, eccorted to the railway-station by the municipal authorities, and reached Tours on Sunday morning at seven. A correspondent of the Daily News gives the following account of his reception:—"The Archbishop (of Tours), almost concealing his robes in a paletot, accompanied Crémieux to receive him. The archbishop shook the hand of Garibaldi, who said that they must now overthrow Garibaldi, who said that they must now overthee the superstition of monarchy, the cause of all the disasters of France. Garibaldi is suffering a great in his foot and can only walk deal from the wound in his foot, and can only walk by leaning on the arms of his friends. He took coffee in the democratic Cafés des Vendanges." Another telegram says:—"Garibaldi arriving here

unexpectedly, no preparations had been made to receive him at the station. A lieutenant of a line regiment, who happened to be there, offered to escort Garibaldi, who replied that he was not accur-

tomed to be escorted—adding, 'We shall meet again on the field of battle, together to deliver the territory of the French Republic from the invader.' Garibaldi proceeded to the Prefecture with General Isembert; and, although much fatigued, he received the Frefect and the members of the Government. Meanwhile a battalion of Francs-tireurs, hearing that Garibaldi had arrived, came into the garden of Prefecture, together with the people, and asked that Garibaldi should review them, shouting at the same time, 'Garibaldi for ever!' 'The Republic for ever!' Garibaldi appeared at the window of the Prefecture, with MM. Crémieux and Glais-Bizoin ; but being indisposed, he could not go down. MM. Crémieux and Glais-Bizoin descended, reviewed the Francs-tireurs, and afterwards rejoined Garibaldi. At the request of the Francs-tireurs, M. Glais-Bizoin embraced Garibaldi in the name of the battalion. Garibaldi and M. Orémieux then addressed a few words tomed to be escorted-adding, 'We shall meet again baldi and M. Orémieux then addressed a few words to the Francs-tireurs, who dispersed, shouting, 'Garibaldi for ever!' 'The Republic for ever!' 'Orémieux for ever!'"

A despatch from Tours in the Telegraph dated yesterday says:—"The arrival of General Garibaldi has disgusted a considerable number of Frenchmen. The Vendeans, Bretons, and Catholics will not fight with him. General Trochu is a Breton."

THE SIEGE OF METZ.

The following are telegrams from the special corre-

The following are telegrams from the special correspondent of the Times:—

"SAARBUCK, Oct. 8 6.5 p.m.—On Friday great sorties were made from Metz. Bazaine was apparently trying to cut his way out by Thionville to Luxemburg. The attack was made from Ladon, Champs Grandes, and Petites Dapes, and other villages north of Fort St. Eloy. The Prussians lost their first line, two Landwehr regiments being terribly cut up. The villages were afterwards taken by storm. Two feigned attacks were made without effect. Forty thousand French were engaged. The Prussians lost nearly a thousand men, the French twice that number." twice that number

twice that number."

"CORNY, NEAR METZ, Oct. S.—The enemy yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock, attacked the Division Kummer near Woippy. A serious action occurred, which was continued till after nightfall. The enemy were repulsed everywhere. On our side the Division Kummer, the 9th Infantry Brigade, and parts of the 10th Corps were engaged. The French Guards were under fire. Simultaneously the enemy on the right bank of the Moselle sent several divisions against the lat and 10th Corps. There was a heavy cannothe 1st and 10th Corps. There was a heavy cannonade. The losses in the Division Kummer and the 10th Corps amounted to 500 men, in the 3rd Corps

to 150."
"SAARBRUCK, Oct. 9.—The Commissariat moved "SAARBRUCK, Oct. 9.—The Commissariat moved from Courcelles to Herny for fear of being cut off by Bazaine. An attempt was made yesterday by the Prussians to blow up by night the Château de la Grange unsuccessfully. Bazaine made a sortie on the Division of Von Kummer. The Prussians were driven back. Kummer re-attacked on being supported by the 10th Army Corps, and the French were driven into Mets. The losses were heavy on both sides. Kummer repulsed sorties on the 22nd and 23rd of September near Grimont. Prince Frederick Charles is quite well again." is quite well again."

A telegram from Saarbruck, dated October 9, 10.20 p.m., says:—"Heavy cannonading has been going on incessantly all day from the outworks and forts of Metz. The result is not yet known. The Prussians yesterday took 2,000 prisoners. They have many of their own wounded. 600 were sent forward to-night. The weather is very bad. There is sickness all about. The rinderpest is raging."

According to a German letter of the 7th the unanimous statement of the prisoners captured that

unanimous statement of the prisoners captured that day was that the discontent of Bazaine's troops had

day was that the discontent of Bazaine's troops had reached such a height that they were resolved either to cut their way through or perish. Their discipline has during the last few days been terribly relaxed.

A few words relative to the other fortresses. The siege of Verdun (hitherto only invested) has begun. The garrison consists of 4,000 men. The troops before Phalsbourg have been increased to four battalions, and provided with heavy guns from Strasbourg. The fall of Mezières and Soissons is expected very shortly. A correspondent of the Etoile Belge says that Montmédy is provisioned for three years, it having been the entrepôt of the army of Sedan. The fort of New Bresach, near Belfort, has been attacked by the Prussians with light guns, and the town set on fire.

THE PRUSSIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE DEMOCRATS.

General von Falkenstein has issued the following order:—"The prohibition to hold social democratic meetings is rescinded. I expect, however, that the police-officers will inform me of those meetings which may embolden France to oppose accepting conditions of peace."

The following is the text of Dr. Jacoby's letter to Count Bismark:—"My Lord,—By command of General Vogel von Falkenstein, Mr. Herbig and I were arrested on the 20th of this month, and conveyed to the fortress of Lotzen-Herbig because he had taken the chair at a public meeting, and I because I had expressed myself against the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine at the same meeting. The clause in the constitution which guarantees the right clause in the constitution which guarantees the right of meeting in public was not suppressed in our province at the commencement of the war, and due legal notice had been given to the police of the holding of the above-mentioned public meeting, which was also watched over to the conclusion by police-officers. My speech, which has been published by the papers, does not contain anything that is punishable, nor am

I conscious of having committed any other offence. My Lord, although I have been at all times a keen opponent of your policy, I have still confidence in you as a man that, if the power rests with you, you will not suffer that innocent men, by virtue of the so-called martial law, shall undergo a purely arbitray punishment.—Yours, &c., Dr. Johann Jacoby.—September 21st, 1870."

In reply to the memorials of the Chief Magistrate and the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Konigsberg, in reference to the arrest of Dr. Jacoby, Count Biamark says that the measures taken by General von Falkenstein appear to be justified, and in harmony with the requirements of the present exceptional period.

GERMAN UNITY.

It is announced that there have been, and pro-bably will be, no negotiations either for the simple entry of the South German States into the Northern Confederation, or for an extension of the North German Constitution to the South German States.

The South German press continues to discuss the proposed union of the Southern States with Germany. The official portion of the Wurtemberg Staatsan-zeiger of Saturday refers to a recent declaration of the King that he would do his share towards effecting a reconstitution of Germany, which should suc-cossfully establish the national cohesion of the whole Fatherland, and yet protect the independence to which each State is entitled, and then proceeds to discuss the matter in a spirit favourable to a union of this kind.

The South German Sovereigns will be invited to the Royal Head-Quarters before Paris, to discuss their union with the North German Confederacy.

Baden, Wirtemberg, and Southern Hesse have signified their intention to join the North German Confederacy and ratify its constitution with some slight modifications. The King of Bavaria still holds

There has been a meeting of Liberals at Stutt-gardt to consider the political future of Germany. A resolution was passed expressing a hope that a common legislation and a united army would be obtained on the basis of the North German Confederation.

THE BURNING OF BAZEILLES

In a very graphic letter from Herr Voget which has been published in the Frankfort Journal descrip-tive of the struggle at Bazeilles, he admits the deliberate burning of the village, but says it was the only possible means to save the Bavarians from a fearful fire poured upon them from the windows of the houses. He describes cases of deliberate burning on both sides, and seems to think that the savagery of the French and the Bavarians was about equal, the latter being, however, only vengeance for the former

A special correspondent of the Daily News who wrote last week is much more unfavourable to the Germans. He says, for instance:-" A woman of independent means, named Ducheny, was so foully abused by the soldiers—and that phrase is intended to describe the most serious outrage that can be inflicted upon woman—that she died three days afterwards. This fact was attested by the priest who confessed the woman in her dying moments.".... "In another house two children named Dehaye, one six months and the other eighteen months old, were pitched from the window of the house into the street pitched from the window of the house into the street by the Bavarians, then thrown back again into the house, which was set on fire, and the children burnt; but their parents escaped. A young man named Remy, thirty-two years of age, who had been confined to his bed for two years with a spinal complaint, was bayoneted and killed as he lay on his couch. In another house, a man named Vanchelet, his daughter, his brother-in-law, and his father-in-law were fastened in the cellar and burnt to death."

The Pall Mall Gazette asys:—"Appropries to the

The Pall Mall Gazette says:—"Apropos to the alleged atrocities at Bazeilles, a well-known literary gentleman who has just left Germany on business connected with the North German Societies for Aid to the Wounded, informs us that he has personally conversed with two officers of one of the Bayarian regiments that first entered the town and recaptured regiments that first entered the town and recaptured it a second time after a repulse. It was upon this second entry that the troops missed the wounded that they had left helpless in the streets, and presently discovered their bodies half consumed in some of the burning houses, to which they must of been dragged or carried a considerable distance. There is no doubt if this direct testimony be accepted as to the crime that was committed, the only doubt as to the crime that was committed, the only doubt can be as to whether the persons punished were the real culprits. But it is certain that those the Bavarian soldiers treated as such were convicted by the evidence of their own fellow townsfolk, who pointed out—under the influence of terror, no doubt -individuals, both men and women, whom they had witnessed committing these cruelties on the helpless wounded. In such a case, we can hardly wonder at the excesses by which the rough soldiery avenged their hapless comrades."

THE PRUSSIAN TROOPS IN FRANCE.

The Times has published an interesting letter by an American diplomatist, giving his impressions derived from a residence of some days at the head-quarters of the Sixth Division of Cavalry, forming the advanced guard of the Crown Prince of Saxony's army. The letter is dated the 16th of September, when the German forces, iresh from the triumph at Sedan, were closing round Paris, the investment of the city having been completed on the 20th. The writer says:—"I have reserved for the conclusion of this letter a point which I have observed and studied with the closest attention—the behaviour of these troops

in the country through which they pass. I well know what was too generally that of the Northern treops in the South in our own civil war, and that of the French in invaded countries during the wars of the First Empire. I have been surprised at the admirable conduct of these people. I have now been with them four days, in the four towns of Vic-sur-Aisne, Crépy, Senlis, and Beaumont. On their marches they simply defile quietly along the roads without picking an apple from a tree. Their system being to lodge in the villages and towns, they send in advance an order to the mayor to provide billets for so many officers and men, and stabling for so for so many officers and men, and stabling for so many horses. The men are to receive reasonable food, and the horses to be provided with stated rations of forage. The troops know nobody but the mayor in the transaction, and on their departure a receipt is given him, on which it becomes the business of his Government to indemnify the cost to which the locality has been put, the mayor being the organ for its distribution. The troops have no right to anything else. In general, an officer is lodged in the same house with any considerable number of men. The troops are then in the position of travellers. They are free to purchase in the shops, but discipline severely restraining them from robbing anything insulting anythody make or female, or comanything, insulting any body, male or female, or committing any wrong. And this discipline is strongly supported by that decent and educated self-respect and quietsobriety of character on the part of these people of which mention has been made above. Jewellers' shops and all other manner of shops remain securely open as in times of peace. Only the tobacco shops are speedily thronged and soon exhausted. I have watched several of them, and while they were crowded with throngs eager to be served, and unable to talk with the preprinters execut by signs and coincides. to talk with the proprietors except by signs and coins to talk with the proprietors except by sighs and coinst tendered, I have witnessed no case in which cigars were taken without payment. I am satisfied that no such cowds, impatient to be served, could have filled tobacco-shops in any other country, even in time of peace, without some of the desired objects disappearing from the counters without payment. The money paid is always silver—namely, thalors and its fractions—nover paper money. The value of the thaler has been fairly fixed by order at three france fifteen sous. There is sometimes a little squabbling over the proper change between the parties, of whom neither understands a word said by the other with bewildering volubility from behind the counter. In five or six shops in which I have inquired (after all was over and not a scrap of the merchandise remained) I have found a good account merchandise remained) I have found a good account given of the behaviour of the sudden influx of customers. Three, however, said they had lost some of their eigars: that they had been taken without payment by a few of the men. I feel sure either that it was the fault of the vendor, crowded upon by so many, who would not accept unaccustomed money, or could not come to terms about change. At Vic a complaint was brought to the General in my presence, on the part of some soldiers, that the shop would not sell to them. 'Tell the shop to sell them fairly, or it canthem. 'Tell the shop to sell them fairly, or it cannot complain if they are taken without payment,' was his reply; and a very reasonable one, as between the conquering and the conquered. I also went a good deal about the groups in the streets, and spoke with the mayors of the different towns. All bore testimony to the excellent conduct of the troops. None had heard of a woman being insulted or any manner of offence committed. Several told how brandy placed on the tables had been either wholly neglected or but slightly touched. One man spoke of another having said that a looking-glass had been broken. I suggested to him that a complaint to an officer would procure redress and payment, but he did officer would procure redress and payment, but he did not seem to care to act on the suggestion. In another case a man came to a hotel where I was dining, and complained that his bonne said that, six men having been billeted on him, food had been provided for them and beds, but they had broken into the master's them and beds, but they had broken into the master's locked room, broken open a wardrobe, and stolen his linen. Moreover, that they had threatened to shoot the master when he should return. An officer present, who understood French, at once got up and went to inquire into the case. It proved to be this—that the master had provided nothing but dry bread for their food, and naked mattresses without sheets for their beds. On asking for the sheets the bonne had let them know that they were in the master's room; whereupon they at once kicked open the door and helped themselves to sheets, which they placed on their beds. The threat of shooting resolved itself into this—that they had laid down their arms on the table, and the bonne (a half crazy woman, as the mistress of my hotel afterwards told me) had fancied that they were destined for her master. This is my testimony, founded on observation and a good deal of inquiry, through four days and four towns of invaded

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

General Changarnier, of whom nothing had been he ard for some time, appears to be in Metz.

It is reported that the Prince of Wurtemberg has been severely wounded in the Park of St. Cloud by two shots fired by Francs-tireurs. He is said to be

in a desperate condition.

The eldest son of the Rev. Dr. Pressensé is an officer on board the French fleet that has been operating in t' e Baltic Sca. Dr. Pressensé is an almoner in the field.

Herr Stieber, the chief director of police in the Prussian camp, has bought the chair on which the Emperor Napoleon sat before the weaver's house, near Sedan, during his interview with Count Bis-

In a telegram dated from Versailles, October 6, Count Bismarck informs Mr. Reuter that he "does not

hold the opinion that the Republican institutions of France constitute a danger for Germany," nor has he, "as described in a letter of the 17th ult, published in the Daily Telegraph, ever expressed such a view to Mr. Malet, or to any other person."

The Crown Princess of Prussia has been visiting the hospitals of the sick and wounded in Wiesbaden and its resignature.

and its neighbourhood.

President Grant has issued a proclamation denying the use of American harbours or waters to arm ing the use of American harbours or waters to armed vessels of either European belligerent for preparing hostile expeditions, or as points of observation upon opponents' vessels; and ordering that no armed ship shall remain more than twenty-four hours in any American harbour, excepting under stress of weather, for provisions or repairs. The proclamation requires that twenty-four hours' delay in the departure of an armed ship shall be enforced where an opponent's vessel had left. It also limits the amount of supplies to be furnished. The proclamation has been occasioned by the conduct of French cruisers watching German vessels at New York.

Relative to the roving mission of M. Thiers, a

German vessels at New York.

Relative to the roving mission of M. Thiers, a Vienna telegram of Oct. 8 says:—"M. Thiers had to-day a long conference with Count Beust. It is probable that in consequence of his visits to the great European Courts the Provisional Government at Tours contemplates granting him full powers enabling him to enter effectively upon peace negotiations. His visit here will, it is believed, produce good results, as Count Beust is using his utmost endeavours to bring about peace, and the moderation he has counselled will be the better received as M. Thiers knows that the Imperial Chancellor's friendly feelings tothat the Imperial Chancellor's friendly feelings to-wards France are of long standing. In St. Peters-burg M. Thiers was well received. To-morrow he has an audience with the Emperor here, and he then

proceeds to Florence. The Napoleon manifesto has been pronounced a fabrication. M. F. Pietri, the Emperor's secretary, calls upon La Situation to make known the source of the document. That journal has made a rambling statement about the serious transaction of which it has been guilty, but has not offered any apology or any explanation respecting the origin of the docu-

It is stated that 2,088 German officers, and 46,480 men, had fallen down to the 18th of August.

men, had fallen down to the 18th of August.

The Berlin correspondent of the Daily News, who has just visited Alsace, writes:—"The experience I have collected is, that the peasantry, almost to a man, rejoice in becoming German subjects, and that, even the towns being left aside, they might be polled about it without danger."

In Saturday's sitting of the Permanent Committee of the Spanish Cortes, Senor Sagasta, in answer to Senor Martos, said, that on account of the excitement in France, the Spanish Government had pointed out to England and Russia the propriety of a friendly mediation in favour of peace. Russia and England answered that they could not interfere; but the latter Government announced that it would use all its influence to facilitate an interview between Count Bismark and M. Jules Favre. After this, France solicited the direct mediation of Spain, but the Spanish Government refused to interfere. Spanish Government refused to interfere.

Steam mitrailleuses are being manufactured a Lyons, with a range of 4,000 mètres.

It is said that a most murderous missile is being prepared at Paris. It is called the Satan Fusée, and consists of a shell filled with petroleum and exploded by a time fuze. The French authorities look on this new means of destruction as so fearful that they have determined not to employ it unless the enemy make use of similar missiles.

The steamer Hornet has been seized at New York on an allegation of the Spanish Consul of her being

intended for a filibustering expedition.

intended for a filibustering expedition.

According to the Literary World there are no less than six Sanskrit scholars of repute serving with the German Armies—Dr. Thibaut, Dr. Goldschmidt, Dr. Von Thielmann, Dr. Greke, Dr. Peschel, and Rich Kiepel. Actually one of our learned German contemporaries publishes an account received from one of its correspondents of the battle of Sedan in Sanskrit.

The Crown Prince is said to have remarked jestingly the other day to an officer going to Germany, "Tis a pity that you do not remain here. You might have dressed up our Christmas tree for us."

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg has induced th German authorities to issue orders for the imposition of a contribution of a million of francs upon any department in which Franc-tireur bands are met with in future.

The Union Libérale of Tours contains a letter signed by "C. M.," an Alsatian lady, who says she is ready to undertake the command of 50,000 Amazons. The initials of two aides-de-camp and a secretary are also appended, and the letter says they can handle a chassepot, and their motto will be

It is officially ascertained that 400 houses were burnt down at Strasbourg; 1,700 civilians were killed or wounded; 8,000 people are roofless. The damage is estimated at 180,000,000fr. The sufferers have been officially requested to state the amount of their losses. Subscriptions have been opened for their relief. The King of Bavaria gave 1,000 thalers; the Berlin Town Council 20,000 thalers.

It is said that General Bourbaki, the hero of the "Very Strange Story," is shortly expected at Tours, where he is summoned by the Government to give explanations respecting his recent proceedings. He was last heard of at Arlon, en route to Liège.

Colonel Charette and three or four hundred French

Pontifical Zouaves are now in Tours.

We are told that the King of Prussia has dispensed with the contribution of 400,000f. demanded from Versailles. Count Bismark informed the Mayor that 'the Prussian authorities were willing to facili-tate the elections to the Assembly, but that the Go-vernment of Paris ordered them not to be held.

Yesterday morning a French fleet passed Dover, consisting of twelve ironclads, all first-class. The ships came from the west, and were bound eastward. The Empress of Russia has sent to the Würtemberg Union for the Care of the Sick and Wounded a large number of things required for the purposes of the society, and at the same time a considerable sum of

money as a donation to its funds.

The Gazette de France of this evening says that General Palikao has offered his services to the Government.

A few days ago a train met with an accident near Vitry la Ville, the rails having been maliciously loosened. The locomotive and three vans were smashed and several persons killed. Four Frenchmen were arrested on suspicion.

The seat of the Governor-General of Alsace has been removed from Hagenau to Strasbourg.

The Indépendance Belge speaks of a new cannon of enormous calibre, which is about to leave the manufactory of M. Vorns, at Nantes, who has offered it for the defence of Paris; the charge is 70lb. of powder. It carries a distance of five miles, and cost 120,000f. It is intended for the defence of Fort d'Ivry. How is it to be got there.

According to a Berlin telegram, the English Am-

bassador at Tours recently suggested the expediency of an armistice, and Count Bismark replied that

of an armistice, and Count Bismark replied that peace might even now be concluded anywhere, but an armistice only at Paris.

The new Krupp grenades sent to Paris are three feet long, and filled one foot with seventy pounds of powder; others are sent to the army before Metz.

The weather in the war districts of France has changed. A good deal of rain has fallen, and cold has succeeded.

The French officers in Africa demand that the troops under them, which number 37,000 men, should be recalled to France to act against the enemy.

The semi-official Provincial Correspondence says that the troops who are now disposable by the fall of Strasbourg, and the 4th Division of Reserve, which has assembled near Freiburg, will be entrusted with the duty of occupying Upper Alsace, together with Mulhouse and Colmar, and will surround or capture Belfort, Schelestadt, and Nen-Breisach. As soon as this duty has been performed—and it will be done as speedily as possible—the troops will be able to push on into the interior of France.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE. INDUSTRY OF THE BESIEGERS OF PARIS .- A letter in the North German Gazette from the camp before Paris, dated the 29th of September, says:—"Our soldiers are shovelling and digging with a zeal like that which the old Romans are credited. Double and frequently treble lines of rifle-pits are formed, the stone walls of the most charming villas are provided with embrasures, and barricades are erected which even Rephefort could not fail to admire All vided with embrasures, and barricades are erected which even Rochefort could not fail to admire. All contingencies are evidently being prepared for, and everything goes on after a consecutive and elaborate plan, in which every physical feature of the spot has been carefully weighed. And not alone in this way is the soldier busy. Here he is carrying off the stores of corn which were spared by the fire of the francs-tircurs; in the villages the sound of the flail is heard, handled by the soldiers. The soldier sets the windmills on the hills in motion, brings in the vegetables from the fields, digs up the potatoes, and gathers the grapes, which are now happily ripe in

gathers the grapes, which are now happing ripe in the vineyards."

A Cool Reception at Versailles.—There can be no ambiguity about the feelings with which the inhabitants around Paris regard the invaders. The Germans themselves bear testimony to the hatred with which they are confronted on all sides. Here Wachenhusen, one of the correspondents of the Colonic Greater, states that nearly all the women in Cologne Gazette, states that nearly all the women in Versailles wear mourning, in token of their patriotic feeling, and do not favour a Prussian even with a look. The old women go about the whole day in tears. In the hotel where he is staying the three women of the house sit behind the buffet and weep. If asked a question in the street, they hardly deign an answer. Even the children are taught to fly from all contact with a Prussian. The inhabitants their relief. The King of Bavaria gave 1,000 thalers.

Marshal MacMahon still remains in Belgium, and will not be in a condition to be moved for a month to come.

General Ollech, hitherto Governor of Coblenz, has been appointed Governor of Strasbourg.

General Ubrich has been named a Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour.

The number of the unwounded French prisoners in Germany has been increased by the fall of Laon, of Versailles admit that the army will enter Paris,

justifiable:—"If you catch a franc-tircur, shoot him on the spot, for they are the fellows who lie in ambush for our people wherever they find them singly, therefore, no mercy for them." They promised to act accordingly, but Herr Wachenhusen is sure they will, nevertheless, have mercy on the armed French rabble.

EFFECTS OF THE BOMBARDMENT OF STRASBOURG.

At the Porte de Saverne, through which we passed into the town, there were tremendous evidences of the cannonade it had withstood. In the passed into the town, there were tremendous evidences of the cannonade it had withstood. In the ditch, masses of stonework stood out above the water, and the ironwork of the bridge was twisted into all sorts of fantastical forms, the railings severed and bristling up like chevaux de frise. The fine stonework over the gateway was demolished; the central escutcheon had been carried clean away, and of two supporting emblematical figures nothing remained but the legs, which were quite intact, and retained a pose of ease and abandon not at all in keeping with the loss of the upper halves of their bodies. We passed along the Rue du Faubourg de Saverne, and from the beginning to nearly the end of this long street there was nothing but ruin on every side—houses that had been burnt, houses with their fronts blown out by shells, houses that retained no semblance of their original shape, but were simply heaps of stone and brick. Here and there, by some strange caprice of fortune, a house stood uninjured, or with no worse damage than a shattered door or window; and here and there, looking into the shells of houses that had suffered most, one saw other quaint instances of less valuable preservation. An isolated window with its glass and blinds complete, a bird-cage hanging far up on a tottering wall, shelves with books, a fireplace on a fourth floor, or An isolated window with its glass and blinds complete, a bird-cage hanging far up on a tottering wall, shelves with books, a fireplace on a fourth floor, or rather at the elevation of a fourth floor, remaining in its place in the wall, with its grate and hearth-stone complete, and in the grate a kettle—such were some of the curious exceptions I saw. Towards the end of the street matters improved a little. Many of the houses were not hopelessly damaged, and their end of the street matters improved a little. Many of the houses were not hopelessly damaged, and their owners were to be seen inspecting them with a half-awakened, bewildered look. Advancing into the centre of the town the damage became less and less apparent; but even in the best preserved localities an occasional ruin showed how diffused the fire from without must have been. On the north side of the Place Kleber the Museum of Pictures is entirely destroyed as is also the quarter of the Etst Major: stroyed, as is also the quarter of the Etat Major; otherwise the square is uninjured, and in the centre otherwise the square is uninjured, and in the centre the fine bronze statue of the gallant Kleber remains intact. A wreath of ivy had been placed on the warrior's brow, but the wind had blown it away, giving him a tipsy, rakish look, out of harmony with his sublime attitude of deflance, and the noble words he is supposed to be uttering, "Soldats, à de telles insolences on ne répond que par des victoires! En avant!" In the Rue des Grandes Arcades, leading out of the Place, one or tree shore were alreads. out of the Place, one or two shops were already open. A tobacconist was doing a rearing business with the German soldiers, and a hair-dresser's premises, looking as trim and smart as possible, were open to the public.—Letter in the Times. CONDITION OF STRASBOURG CATHEDRAL .- Much of

Condition of Strasbourg Catherral.—Much of the beauty of the spire is in its minute ornamentation, and this has suffered more than I had hoped. Almost entirely on the north side has the evil been done, the fire of the enemy coming from that direction. The principal thing that struck me at first was that the balustrade round the western side of the platform had been carried away, and the shot which did it, taking it in profile, had passed on and injured the upper work of one of the niches in the first stage of pilasters, in which is placed the equestrian statue of Clovis. The result is not very serious, but for the present King Clovis presents a rather ludicrous appearance; a section of pillars has fallen upon him and adjusted itself in a slanting position, with one end resting on his bridle hand and the other on his chin, reminding one of the attitude of a clerk carrying an overload of ledgers. The King's brothers, Dagobert, Rodolph of Hapsburg, and the Grand Monarque, fortunately remain undisturbed in their niches. I should think that very few shots had struck the building, but the splintering, and even the concussion perhaps, has been sufficient to bring down a good many of the light pilasters and spiracles, some of which, having been attached with wire, hang here and there, swinging in the air. The iron cross on the top, about twenty feet high, has been bent to one side, a matter of no great moment, but on which eircumstance was no doubt founded the Parisian on the top, about twenty feet high, has been bent to one side, a matter of no great moment, but on which circumstance was no doubt founded the Parisian reports that the main body of the spire itself was displaced and toppling to its fall. From the minute nature of the damage done it is difficult to estimate its extent, but one thing is fortunately certain, that it is not irremediable, and probably it will not take any very great expenditure of time or money to set all to rights again. Down below, little or no essential harm has been done; the rich and beautiful work about the grand portal and the entry to the chapel of St. Lawrence has sustained no injury, and only one sacrilegious shot appears to have penetrated to one sacrilegious shot appears to have penetrated to the interior of the building. Unfortunately, it has entered just at the spot where the top of the organ rests, and the instrument has been a good deal shattered, but there the damage ends. The splendid old glass of the thirteenth and fourteenth century had been removed from the windows and corefully and so is the altar. The astronomic clock has also escaped, and, by its side, that quaint conceit—the life-size effigy of Erwin of Steinbach—still lounges in its gallery, regarding with undisturbed satisfaction the uninjured beauties of Erwin's celebrated column. On the whole, there is every reason to conthe antique and the beautiful in architecture that the noble cathedral survives its dangerous ordeal in no worse plight.—Ibid.

The Cassagnacs and the Late Emperor.—The Secret Correspondence of the Tuileries just published conclusively shows that the Emperor personally intrigued for the annexation of Belgium, which would have been a defiance to England, and prompted M. Benedetti to make those overtures to Count de Bismark for a secret treaty which have been most opportunely divulged. What the Cassagnacs got for their nefarious service is dimly indicated by the following memorandum among the most recent secret papers brought to light:—"May, 1870. Paid to M. Granier de Cassagnac a second instalment on a sum of 160,000 francs—16,000 francs." These enormous largesses are, as will be observed, of very recent date. What Granier de Cassagnac must have received from the Emperor since 1851 may be inferred from a proportional estimate, and only think that this wretch was employed every year to move the address in answer to the speech from the throne, and that men of "wealth and position," who thoroughly believe themselves to be respectable, echoed and cheered whatever he said. In a general way it may be truly said that Napoleon III., during all the eighteen years of his reign, had scarcely one enthusiastic friend who was not corrupted by public money unscrupulously lavished to purchase loyalty. It is not to me that the too indiscriminately-used aphorism, "Don't hit a man when he is down," can be addressed. From the 2nd of December, 1851, to September 4, 1870, I never for a single instant flagged in my endeavours to expose, so far as international necessities permitted, the abominations of the Empire.—Daily News Correspondent at Tours.

Inside Metz.—The Manchesta Guardian correspondent, who is shut up in Metz, has managed to send three or four letters to England. One of these is very interesting. It confirms the very strange story told by the Pall Mall Gazette, in so far as it says that General Bourbaki did actually leave Metz, though the writer supposes that he went to Paris to consult with the Government, and not to visit the Empress, as was really the case. The writer continues:—"I am now regularly established in the school of engineers as a balloon-maker. I hoped to be able to make one large enough to carry me away, but this will not be done now, and I must now perforce find some other means of getting away, or rest still here in impatience and anxiety. Horseflesh is plentiful, and we have good stores of bread. But I can tell you that I shall never again call anything common or unclean in the way of edibles. Beef and mutton have long been unknown: pork is five shillings a pound; butter passed out of memory; and cheese, sugar, and salt, and a hundred other things usually considered necessaries, are regarded as vanities, of which it is wholly useless to think. But we are contented, and accept our lot with philosophical resignation."

The New Defenders of France.—The large towns are full of Gardes Mobiles, who are left to do very much as they like. It is true that they seldom, if ever, behave badly; but this is owing far more to good luck than to good management. They are not looked after, are lodged anyhow, armed with the worst conceivable weapons, marched leagues when they need not be moved a single mile, and clothed in the most ill-fitting garments, or not clothed at all. I say advisedly that, all things considered — and particularly their utter want of military training—no troops in the world would behave half so well as these men have done and are doing. I say more, that of all the many military crimes chargeable against French mismanagement, the way in which the Gardes Mobiles are, as if purposely, made to dislike their corps, exceeds all the rest. And of one thing I am quite sure—that no English troops, whether regulars, militiamen, or marines, would put up with one-tenth of what these men are made to suffer. But what can be done? I do not know what is the real state of affairs in Paris; but in the provinces things cannot go on another month as they are. No soldiers could stand the continued neglect that is shown to these men, most of whom belong to the best ranks in society, and many to excellent families. I met last night at the house of a friend in Amiens two private soldiers and a corporal of the Garde Mobile of Rheims. One of them was the son of a wealthy banker in that town; another was the head of a large wine-exporting firm; and the third bore the name of one of the oldest families in France. All these men had taken up arms to defend their country, but had become disgusted with the way in which they were treated. What can men do or feel when they know that there is not even a tenth-rate head to direct them? To talk about defending the country, when the only persons if for that defence are made to hat the service, is simply childish; and none know it better than the troops themselves. In the departments of Somme, Nord, Pas de C

capital, to follow them in their retreat to the frontier, and so to cut them up that hardly a man will ever reach Germany again. In themselves the men must be excellent, or they would long ago have flung down their arms and gone home. But what cannot muddle, want of management, want of chiefs, and universal disorder bring about in any corps? And the French Gardes Mobiles are, after all, but men. What can the rawest of raw infantry do in the field without either cavalry or guns? The Gardes Mobiles never had guns in their hands until two months ago; and they will be of little use against troops that are under Prussian discipline and Prussian officers, and flushed with a series of victories in France. Matters may be better in Paris; but, so far as the provinces are concerned, the play has been played out, and we have not long to wait for the end.—Letter from Amiens.

The Nuns of St. Germains.—A letter from this place says:—"The French contrive, in spite of all the vigilance of the Germans, to smuggle out letters, &c., from Paris. A pair of balloons passed over yesterday, and dropped a packet of letters into the Ursuline convent here. Although the German officers were in the convent two minutes after the packet had fallen, nothing was forthcoming. So the commandant has put sentinels at the gates and quartered a score of hussars on the sisters, and this is to be repeated daily until the packet is forthcoming. I have seen a good many strange sights in the last few months, and not one of the least strange was that of a hussar, booted and spurred, with carbine loaded and cocked, at the grille of an Ursuline convent.

(Continued on page 979.)

Postscript.

Wednesday, October 12th, 1870.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION.
AUTUMNAL MEETING AT PLYMOUTH.

The autumnal meeting of the Congregational Union in Plymouth was commenced on Monday evening, when the Rev. R. D. Wilson, of Craven Chapel, London, preached a sermon to a crowded congregation in Sherwell Chapel. The text was taken from the 28th and 29th verses of the 22nd chapter of St. Luke, "Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me." The sermon was one of great length, was delivered with much energy and earnestness, and was most attentively listened to.

The regular session of the Union commenced yesferday. So far as can be ascertained, about 400 ministers and 250 delegates have arrived in the town, which has given them a most cordial and general welcome. These numbers compare favourably with similar meetings of previous years. After

singing and prayer, The Rev. J. C. HARRISON, the chairman of the year delivered the inaugural address, in which he fulfilled a promise made in May by resuming the subject of which he began the discussion then-the liberty, the opportunity of following Christ, of obeying His authority as regards truth, life, and ecclesiastical polity. It was the last of these points that he proceeded to consider. On the 6th of September, 1620, a small vessel, of 180 tons burden, sailed out of Plymouth, having on board 120 passengers who had formed a determination of crossing the ocean, and finding a home in the New World. The vessel was the Mayflower. The passengers were a company of refugees, who, a few years before, had taken up their abode in Holland to escape the persecutions and dangers which befel them in England. They were Independent in principle, and the record of their voyage, of the hardships they suffered when they reached the shores of America, of the churches they planted and the institutions they established, is one of the most rementic and stimulating charters in the most romantic and stimulating chapters in the history of the Christian church. What these emigrants desired was liberty to carry out the instructions and commands of Christ. Had they instructions and commands of Christ. Had they been simply denied the opportunity of giving effect to some favourite theory of their own, some scheme which was the mere product of their own imaginations, they would in all probability have taken the refusal very quietly, and only lamented that the authorities were not so wise as they. They would have remained in their own native land and contented themselves with dreaming their dream over and themselves with dreaming their dream over and over again in private, whilst in public they conformed to the institutions of their fathers. But they held that Christ had spoken in no equivocal terms, and that they were under the most solemn obligation to obey His voice. They dared not listen to expediency when they had heard the call of duty. So they desired liberty, and were ready to cross a stormy ocean and commit themselves to unknown stormy ocean and commit themselves to unknown lands to attain it; not that they might follow their own self-chosen path, but that they might with scrupulous exactitude comply with the instructions of their Master. The liberty which they so earnestly longed for, and which they at length attained at so heavy a cost, we enjoy almost to the full. Churches of our faith and order exist in every part of the land, and we can regulate them just as we please. The tide of public opinion is setting in

rapidly and strongly against the idea of a dominant or Established Church. The Protestant Episcopal Church in Ireland will in a few months take its place amongst the free churches of Europe; nor are manifest indications wanting that ere long the happy day will dawn on the Episcopal Church in England, when the voice of emancipation will be heard, saying, "Loose her, and let her go." social inequality, on account of fidelity to religious conviction, which is the last vestige of ancient thraldom, will quietly pass away, and our freedom will be completed. If we act in the spirit of those noble Pilgrim Fathers, whose memory ever lingers round this spot, we whose memory ever ingers round this spot, we shall use our liberty to make our churches, not what our own taste or fancy may dictate, not what a careless compliance with the current of the age may produce, but what our Lord and Master requires. In regard to the ecclesiastical polity no less than Christian doctrine of individual life we should take as our rule, "One is your Master, even Christ." I know that there has always been some, and that they are more numerous than ever in the present day, who maintain that our Lord has left no specific directions as to the form and adminis-tration of the Church; that Christian Societies arose out of the necessity of the case rather than from set purpose, and that their rules and institutions are and ever must be determined by what is seen to be expedient. But surely it is quite incredible that Christian churches should be so frequently referred to in the New Testament as the product of our Lord's work on earth, as the stored and treasured fruits of His labour and love, and yet that He should have left these to take shape just as human wisdom or caprice may devise. Christ is described as the head of the body the Church and the body must correspond in structhe Church and the body must correspond in struc-ture and character, while the head must be pervaded with its life, and fitted to carry out its impulses. Christ, it is said, loved the Church, and gave Him-self for it. What He loved so well, and redeemed at such a cost, must have had some well-marked features—must have accorded with His will and realised His intentions. That He has not laid down a form of church polity with the legal exactitude which we find in the Old Testament dispensation we readily allow, and for this we can easily account. As the Gospel is intended for the manhood of our race—is especially intended to develope and train a spiritual manhood—it lays down its laws even for the guidance of practical life, rather in the form of grand principles, in the application of which the judgment has scope for exercise and the spirit of obedience an opportunity of proving both its thoroughness and its skill, than in the form of minute commands. Hence it is quite in keeping with the genius of Christianity that its laws of Church polity should also be presented in principle and by precedent, rather than in elaborate detail. And this the more, because in the Jewish economy the whole system was completed at once; a race of slaves was suddenly formed into a nation, and received their religious institutions at the same time they received their religious institutions at the same time they received their political. In con-stituting them a people, God adjusted their religious organisations to their peculiar character and re-quirements. It was totally different with Chris-tianity. Single individuals were called out of nations, which as a whole refused to accept it. It was a growth; the grain of mustard-seed developing into a tree which was ultimately to cover the earth the leaven leavening the whole lump. And hence it was in harmony with the spirit of such a society that its form and government should be made known in principle and outline, and not in rigid unbending laws to be administered in one identical manner, whether the society should be small or large, in its infancy or in its maturity, whether it should flourish among the barbarians or the civilised, the men of the east or the men of the west. Superficial differences we might expect to be allowed and even encouraged, just as we expect to meet such differences in in-dividual men, but beneath these differences we should look for organic resemblance. Some prin-ciples there must be which constitute the ground of a church's existence, and without which no society can be a church at all. Now, it can hardly be doubted that the nature of the Christian church was intended to be coincident with the grand object of the Gospel; and what was that object? The Gospel never aimed at mere proselytism at simply bringing persons into connection with its outward forms. On the contrary, our Lord dis-tinctly declares that as responsibility is proportioned to privilege, "knowledge without obedience only aggravates guilt, profession without submission only brings severer condemnation, unreality is the greatest conceivable crime." The real object of the Pospel we may gather from what our Lord places in the foremost of His discourse with Nicodemus. Going at once to the heart of the subject, and summing up in the fewest words the grand effect which he sought to produce, he said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God." Regeneration is the true characteristic of the Gospel. Till that is realised, the Gospel has not attained its end. A man who hears but does not believe, who accepts the word of Christ as true, but does not yield to its regenerating power, is still without: he does not even see the Kingdom, much less enter in. If our hearts refused to submit to the will of Christ, we are not His subjects at all, and surely His church cannot be composed of rebels, of those who have no real part in Him. But directly we are "born of the Spirit," and life in its most rudimentary form begins, we have our place in the Kingdom—we are members of His church. And when we look at the

subject historically we are led to the same conclusions. The proper origin of the Christian church was at the Pentecost. Then the Spirit was poured out from on High, and awakened religious life in those who had been dead in sin. They were pricked to the heart, and cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" They were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and received the gift of the Holy Ghost. They continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine, and fellowship in breaking of bread and in prayers. Three thousand, who were thus inwardly renewed, were joined together in Church communion, and those that were subsequently added to them from down to day were "the quently added to them from day to day were "the saved." Regeneration was the one great qualification of membership. As the Church grew and spread from place to place, it was impossible for it to meet as a whole, undesirable that it should come was the construction of what the believers under one vast system of rule. The believers in each locality, therefore, met as a separate church and managed their own ecclesiastical affairs, always, however, with brotherly oneness and sympathy with the whole body of the faithful and constant reference to the law of Christ. When we read the epistles addressed to these several communities, we find the very principle which constitutes the basis of the Church universal referred to as the basis of their fellowship. Without laying any undue stress on the words connected with salutations—" beloved of God," "called to be saints," "sanctified in Christ Jesus," "the faithful in Christ Jesus,"—we maintain that in the substance of the epistles maintain that in the substance of the epistles the character of the members is set forth in all imaginable clearness. Thus in the Epistle to the Ephesians, the apostle says, "You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins": and when speaking of Christ he adds, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise." And in the Epistle to the Corinthians after anymorating the different forms of unthians, after enumerating the different forms of unrighteousness which exclude from the Kingdom of God, he says:—"And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." And the more carefully you examine all the epistles, the more certainly will you come to the conclusion that spiritual life was the ground of membership. If we are asked how we reconcile with these conclusions the complaints which occur in the same epistles of the irregularities and inconsistencies of some of the members, we reply that these evils were partly the remains of long-continued idolatrous habits, which the young converts in an atmosphere still poisoned and un-Christian had not yet thrown off, and partly the result of ignorance and corelessness respecting the duty of exercising discipline. There may be life without perfection, and the real question is, was he—the Apostle—willing to tolerate the evils referred to? Did he regard them as consistent with his ideal of a church? Did he not rather stigmatise them as blots which ought to be removed? Every individual Christian man is imperfect; he retains something of the weakness and impurity of his former state, but he does not regard these blemishes as things which are to be borne with as inevitable, or as forming an integral part of his Christian character. No, he thinks of them as evils to be fought against, and with the least possible delay to be overcome. And so with the imperfections and crimes which existed in the Corinthian and other Churches, the Apostle spoke of them as inconsistent with the idea of a Christian Church, as spots in their feasts, as abominations which went night to break his heart, as mischievous intruders which were to be promptly expelled. "Purge out," he indignantly exclaims, "purge out the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump." We perceive, then, that the Church is not an artificial association, composed of those who have accepted some factitious or arbitrary basis as a ground of their union. But like a family which has its root in that which is fundamental to our nature, it is the result of birth, and as the family is intended to foster and develope the natural life, so the Church is intended to foster and develope spiritual life. It therefore can never be brought to coincide with either a territory or a nation—it is "called out" from itself, and it takes its rise in any spot where the life-giving power of the Spirit is exerted and felt. All who, then, have been renewed by that power form the local church, which is just a part of the Church Universal. The rev. gentleman further spoke of the importance of having a thoroughly educated clergy, that the pulpit may continue to be a real power; of the necessity of exercising discipline, especially with regard to gossiping busybodies, who went about with ambiguous words, disturbing the peace of the community; and of the importance of holding communion and geoperation with sister churches. communion and co-operation with sister churches, as a means of bringing half their difficulties to an end. In conclusion he said:—Nor let us forget, that what the church of Christ is among any people, always determines, in a great degree, what the nation shall be. If the Church stands fast by integrity, truthfulness, unsullied honour, simplicity in living, and conscientious obedience to the law of Christ, society at large is leavened by its influence, and regards its conduct as the standard of right. But if the church follows where it should lead, adopts the loose maxims of the world, instead of cleaving to the rule of the Gospel, society takes its own course with hardly any check, and be-comes thoroughly hollow and corrupt. Of this we have had a signal illustration in connection with the fierce and sanguinary contest on which all eyes are fixed in painful interest. Why has the one nation

exhibited such unexpected vigour, and advanced with scarce a reverse? Because, with many faults, they have had the Bible, to a great extent, as the guide of their social life, and have been trained by churches and pastors, who in some good degree have inculcated and exemplified a spiritual faith. They are strong because, speaking generally, they are morally sound. (Hear, hear.) God grant that by long occupation in (Hear, hear.) God grant that by long occupation in war and continued successes, their firm, sober perseverance may not degenerate into an iron, determined self-sufficiency, undirected and unsweetened by evangelical tenderness, generosity, and love. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) But France, long regarded as the first military power in the world, how is it that France has so suddenly so mysteriously collarsed? Oh, she had a suddenly, so mysteriously collapsed? Oh, she had a godly seed—a church whose martyr history now makes the blood course rapidly, and the eye fill with tears of admiration and thanksgiving. But the noblest sons of the church were driven from their native soil, and carried with them not only their native soil, and carried with them not only their industry, but their bracing, purifying influences to other lands. The Huguenots could not be tolerated by a bigoted, licentious king and court—they were banished, and then there was no longer salt enough in the kingdom to keep it from corruption. What the nation has passed through since, what it has been to Europe, alas! we know too well. Its revolutions, its restlessness, its incessant wars, its brilliant civilisation, masking the most frightful important of the property of the source of the morality, are familiar to us all. During these years the Romish Church has accepted and flattered each new dynasty in its turn. (Hear, hear.) The Reformed Church has carried with it a deadly taint of Rationalism, and though many of its pastors have been "men of whom the world is not worthy," they have too much neutralised their testimony by occupying the same pulpit as their sceptical colleagues—(Hear, haer)—and adopting the deadening habit of preaching the same elaborate discourse in successive weeks in the same church, it may be though to a different congregation. Again and again there has been signs of revival—no small fruit has been gathered in by the Evangelical Society and the Free Churches; but there has not been life enough and earnestness enough to stay the plague which has been demoralising the land. At length a crisis is come, the rottenness has been revealed, and the nation is prostrate before a triumphant foe. A brother honoured and beloved has addressed a letter from Paris to us, the Independent churches of Great Britain, bitterly complaining of our want of sympathy with France in her sorrows, and of the coolness with which we listen to projects of dismemberment. To his passionate remonstrance we would reply, "Brother, we feel deeply for your afflicted land, our hearts are sore and sad as we think of our fellow-disciples whose homes are desolate; we weep with you over your sons who have perished in the field, and we lament that any part of your fair soil should be torn from you; but far, far more bitterly do we mourn the spirit of falsehood which has taken possession of your nation — (Hear, hear)—the inordinate vanity which prefers a gilded lie to an unpalatable truth, the corruption which pervades Court and Government, the Bourse, and social life; for these, these are the cause of your present calamities, and, unless corrected, these will surely be your ruin. Brother, speak not so sorely of losing Alsace or Lorraine, as if that were the last drop in your cup of bitterness. Suffering and impoverishment are often the means which God employs to humble those whom He means to bless, to purify and inraise those whom He intends to save. And if even the loss of the most prized of your provinces should bring the people to know themselves, should raise them from their moral debasement to cry from their hearts to God, then what you deplore may only be the cloud which is 'big with mercy,' and the severance of Alsace may be the salvation of France. Brother, we prove from the death of our France. Brother, we pray from the depth of our soul that you and your honoured comrades may receive a special baptism of the Spirit from on high to fit you for this momentous crisis. We pray that in the spirit of the old prophets you may go through the streets of your cities, may cry aloud and spare not, may expose with firm and unshrinking hand the evils which are preying on the life of your nation, and may call them everywhere to repent. We pray that in the spirit of the apostles, the spirit of Confessors and Reformers, you may so proclaim the Gospel of the grace of God, that a glorious revival may burst over your land, and your people be drawn unto Christ. Then will stricken and wounded France live again, and her brilliant sons, la grand nation of your pride, will take their place among the leaders, not of a mere-tricious civilisation, but of a divine and spiritual progress." (Loud and continuous applause.) But, my dear brethren, let us not forget ourselves while we thus speak. There is too much in our own nation and our own churches that will not bear the light, to allow us to utter any words of boastful exultation or rebuke. We may well go softly and cry with lowly hearts, "Enter not into judgment with thy servants, O Lord, for in thy sight can no living man be justified. Send, oh, send Thy reviving Spirit on our churches, and heal Thou our national sins. So we, Thy people and sheep of Thy pasture, will give Thee thanks for ever; we will show forth Thy praise to all generations." (Loud applause.)

Pasteur de Faye, of Brussels, the Rev. Baron Hart, of Paris, and the Rev. J. Cox, from Scotland, were welcomed by the chairman on behalf of the Union.

The Rev. H. Simon, London, read an address on personal religion.

THE WAR.

GERMANY.

(From the Times Correspondent.)

Berlin, Oct, 11, 10 a.m.

In addition to 1,100 cannon, 12,000 chassepots, 6,000 cwt. of ammunition, and fifty locomotives were captured in Strasbourg. The fortifications are being rapidly repaired. All the masons, carpenters, and labourers of the town are impressed at high warrant. at high wages.

The prisoners taken at Bazaine's last great sortie

declare that his soldiers forced him to choose be-tween another attempt to escape or to surrender. Many heavy guns of the navy have been sent to

Up to to-day about twenty villages have been burnt and 150 peasants shot for carrying on illicit warfare against Germans.

GENERAL BURNSIDE'S MISSION. (From the Daily Telegraph.)

We understand that the American General Burnside left the King of Prussia's head-quarters on Saturday last for Paris, under the safeguard of a pass through the German lines. He went to obtain an interview with M. Jules Favre, and to convey the assurance of Count Bismark's perfect willing-ness to permit the holding of the elections for the Constituent Assembly in the Department of the Seine. Whether these elections be held soon or late, the fact of the North German Chancellor's readiness to further the appeal to the French people is not without significance, though it would be premature to associate the incident with any design of renewed negiotiations.

Letters which have been received here from Paris, dated so recently as the 6th instant, supply full information as to the state of the capital on that day. The accounts given are satisfactory. The city was quiet, the people were calm and resolute, and all the troops appeared to be animated by the best spirit. It is asserted that there was no anxiety as to the supply of provisions, and that the confidence of the Parisians in their power to resist an assault is as yet undiminished ..

THE REVISION OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE .- The third session of the New Testament Company commenced yesterday, and will be continued until Friday next, inclusive. The meeting took place, as on former occasions, in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster. There was a full attendance of the revisers, excepting the Bishop of Winchester, the chairman, whose place was filled by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. It is understood that satisfactory progress was made, and an excellent feeling prevailed among the revisers.

The Church Congress at Southampton.—The Church Congress commenced yesterday at Southampton, when special services were held at two of the churches, the Bishops of Salisbury and Oxford being the preachers. The Bishop of Oxford dwelt upon the importance of unity, and lamented the lack of it in the Church. The Bishop of Salisbury preached on the evidences of the truth of the Gospel. The Congress was opened by the Bishop of Winchester, the President. About 1,500 persons were present. The right reverend President defined the objects of the Congress, which, he said, were to increase the practical efficiency of that branch of the Church universal by securing fuller understanding and greater readiness in the use of the various parts of the existing machinery by increasing (the result of mutual consultation) the number of their instruments, by improving the elasticity of their system, THE CHURCH CONGRESS AT SOUTHAMPTON. ments, by improving the elasticity of their system, and, above all, gaining, as the result of free personal intercourse, larger, more trusting, and more loving co-operation among clergy and laity. The present intellectual activity might cause a great gain if directed aright, but without proper guidance it might lead to fatal convulsions. Deep thinkers and profound divines were not enough, unless the gifts possessed were applied to meet the wants of the present time. Oh answers to old difficulties would no more meet new objections than old firearms would be effectual in modern battles. It was only by maintaining essential truths a matters not fundamental they could hope to hold their own ground as the Church of a great and free people. Against carelessness, vice, irreligion, and unbelief the Church might do everything if but united.

MARK-LANE.-THIS DAY.

Influenced by the large quantities of all descriptions of foreign grain which were on sale, the grain-trade at Mark. lane was characterised by quietness, and prices occasionally gave way slightly. Owing to English wheat being scarce, a somewhat steady inquiry was apparent, on former terms; while foreign being abundant, sales were effec ed cautionaly, but not positively lower in value. Barley was in good supply and limited request for grinding qualities, but malting samples were in fair demand, at Monday's quotations. The malt trade was slightly improved in the inquiry, but not quotably dearer. There were large supplies of oats on the stands, consequently the demand was restricted, at previous currencies. Beans and peas were purchased to a fair extent, at fully late prices. Flour was in limited request, but unaltered in value.

At a recent meeting of the Hull Council, an alderman complained of the absence of a certain councillor. "Sir," exclaimed a councillor, indignantly, "you ought to have made that complaint when he was present."

MRS. BAYNES and her Sisters, the Misses BEARD, have RFMOVED from Denmark-hill to a larger house at HAMPSTEAD, where their PUPILS will REAS-BEMBLE early in September. Prospectuses will be forwarded 61 application to Mrs. Baynes, Mount View, Green-ill. Hampstead, N.W.

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Published by ARTHUR MIALL (to whom it is requested that all Post-office Orders may be made payable), 18, Bouverie-Street, Floet-street, E.C.

Advertisers of all classes will find THE NONCONFORMIST a valuable Medium for their announcements.

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

			£. s. d.
Yearly			 1 8 10
Half-yearly	***	•••	 0 12 0
Quarterly	•••	•••	 0 8 0

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TO CORRESPONDENTS. DAVIS, J. P., Gibraltar-11. 3s. 10d. received.

The Monconformist.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1870.

SUMMARY.

It is now three weeks since Paris was invested. During that period nothing has left the French capital except M. Gambetta and other aeronauts, a few single couriers, and a number of balloons, andcarrier pigeons. General Burnside has also been in and out of the beleaguered city, and has taken to M. Favre the assurance that Count Bismark will interpose no obstacles to the meeting of a Constituent Assembly at Tours. The Defence Government have, however, decided that no such meeting shall take place, and the Minister of the Interior is now at Tours, clothed with the powers of a Dictator, to enable him to organise the military forces of the country to relieve Paris, or to harass the German armies.
While M. Gambetta has appeared at Tours
from the capital, Garibaldi, escaped from
Caprera, has also reached that city from Mar seilles, to offer his services to the Republic. It is not easy to see that the Italian Liberator can be of much use to France at the present juncture, especially as his presence has given great umbrage to the Vendeans, Bretons, and other staunch Catholics, who decline to co-operate with him. Of greater service would be General Bourbaki, the commander of the Imperial Guards, who does not, it seems, propose to return to Metz, but to place himself at the service of the Government at Tours.

During these three weeks the German forces have been making their dispositions around Paris, constructing works, and bringing up their siege-train. But their eight hundred pieces of artillery which are to open fire are not yet all placed. They have formidable batteries on the heights of Meudon, where Prince Napoleon's villa stands; and are said to have erected strong works at Sèvres, south of Mont Valérien, with the view of laying siege to Forts d'Issy and de Vanvres. Should these defences fall—and to lay siege to them must necessarily be a slow operation—the Germans will have secured a position from which they could easily bombard Paris itself. According to Dr. Russell, the defences of the capital have been so greatly multiplied and strengthened, even since the investing armies appeared, that Paris has become a very strong fortress. The population is being rationed, and though meat is beginning to fail, there are ample stores of flour, and the Parisians are thus far warlike, resolute,

Paris may hold out a month or two months longer, but within either of those periods can the beleaguered capital be relieved from the outside? There is now a real Army of the Loire, composed of Mobiles, Franc-tireurs, and Papal Zouaves. One division took the field and gained a trifling advantage at Toury, but on Monday a considerable portion of the army, estimated at 20,000, was attacked by a portion of the Crown Prince's corps and defeated,

"fled in disorder," and General von der Tann, who commanded the Prussians, is now at the outskirts of Orleans. A similar fate has be-fallen a French corps, 14,000 strong, who contested the advance through the Vosges passes of the Baden division coming from the east. It seems now quite improbable that any forces M. Gambetta can raise at Tours or Lyons will be able to meet the enemy in the field; though it may be easy to harass the Prussian line of communications, and, especially during the coming cold and wet season, cut off isolated detach-ments and supplies. Germany has now nearly all her armies in France, and there does not seem much present prospect that the large force under Prince Frederick Charles around Metz will soon be liberated. Marshal Bazaine keeps

will soon be liberated. Marshal Bazaine keeps up incessant sorties at a heavy loss, but his capitulation seems to be yet far off.

While the war proceeds negotiations are going on for union between North and South Germany. The question whether Prussia shall be absorbed into Germany, or the Southern States Prussianised, seems to be virtually desided by the decision of the letter Bayesian cided by the decision of the latter, Bavaria excepted, to join the existing Confederation. Count Bismark is not disposed to yield the absolute control of political events in the Fatherland, and the presence of all the German Sovereigns at Versailles, whither they have been invited by King William, will serve the double purpose of facilitating the reorganisation of Germany, and of providing the King of Prussia with a dignified escort should he, ere long, enter the streets of the French capital.

Victor Emmanuel has received in state at Florence the result of the Plébiscite in the Roman States. It seems that only about 32,000 persons out of 167,548 on the lists abstained from voting, and only 1,500 thus expressed their disapproval of union with Italy. Papal partisans, of course, endeavour to damage the effect of this national manifestation by allegations that Pius IX. discouraged open opposition. Still only one-fourth of the qualified male population held aloof. The Roman States have been declared by Royal decree an integral part of the Kingdom of Italy, and General Della Marmora has been sent to govern Rome. The population of that city discourage all extreme opinions, and would seem to be among the most resolute and industrious of the King's subjects. A law will soon be passed settling the conditions which are to guarantee the territorial freedom and independence of the Pope and the free exercise of his spiritual authority—a matter of no little difficulty, now that the population of the Leonine City have unanimously voted against the Papal jurisdiction. While Pius IX. assumes the air of a martyr, and subjects himself to voluntary imprisonment in the Vatican, he has not disdained to accept an instalment of the handsome allowance granted him out of the

revenues of Italy. The domestic events of the week have not been of great importance. Yesterday, Mrs. Waters, convicted of murder in connection with the celebrated Brixton baby-farming case, was executed in Horsemonger-lane Gaol, the Home Secretary having declined to grant a respite.—In our Postscript we give some particulars of the opening of the Church Congress at Southampton, and the Autumnal Session of the Congregational Union at Plymouth.—A good deal of interest is being excited throughout the metropolis by the election of the School Board under the new Education Act, which will take place next month. There is no lack of candidates for that honourable position, and the working classes seem to be specially bestirring

themselves in the matter.

GAMBETTA'S PROCLAMATION AND BISMARK'S LAST NOTE.

THE Franco-German duel is assuming a political phase. Both belligerents have recommenced a roundabout appeal to the judgment of Europe. M. Gambetta, Minister of the Interior in the Provisional Government, after an aerial voyage from Paris to the neighbourhood of Amiens, and a narrow escape from Prussian bullets, which perforated his balloon and grazed his hand, has joined the Delegation at Tours. He has addressed a Proclamation to the citizens of the departments, which, we regret to observe, is full of what our American kinsmen designate "tall talk," and which rather seems intended to strike the Germans with dread, than adapted to inspire the French with patriotic enthusiasm. The Revolution, he says, found Paris without cannon and without arms. All this, owing to the incredible energy of the Republic, seconded by the ardour of the inhabitants, is changed. The National Guards, numbering 400,000, are armed; 100,000 Mobiles with the loss of three guns and a thou-sand prisoners. The French, we are told, have been summoned; and 60,000 regular combatants have taken to talk their loudest, and

troops are assembled. The foundries cast cannon, and the women make a million cartridges daily. Already each battalion of the National Guards has two mitrailleuses; the enceinte is defended by 3,800 pieces of ordnance with 400 rounds of ammunition to each gun; the forts are furnished with marvellous artillery, served by the first gunners in the world; a third line of defence, consisting of barricades, will give scope for the Parisian "genius of street-fighting." Paris is impregnable. There will be no sedition, no famine. Restraint and scarcity will be borne with manly constancy by the besieged until their brethren in the departments have time to gather. "Up, then, in a mass," is M. Gambetta's exhortation to the provinces, "and let us die rather than suffer the shame of dismemberment. In the midst of our disasters we have still the sentiment left of French unity, and the indivisibility of the Republic."

The Circular Despatch of the Prussian Government is less rhetorical, but is no doubt drawn up with a view to a similar purpose as that of M. Gambetta's Proclamation. The French capital, it assumes, must fall sooner or later into the hands of the German army. The consequences will be frightful if the capitulation be delayed until the necessaries of life in Paris are exhausted. In such an event the German commanders could not suddenly find food for two millions of people, even for a day. German troops will have used up all the provisions of troops will have used up all the provisions of the neighbourhood, and since there will be none left within several days' march of the metro-polis, the Parlsians will be unable to evacuate the city by road, and hundreds of thousands of them will perish by starvation. But the war will be prosecuted in the face of this foreseen calamity. "We intend," says the despatch, "to let those who hold power in France be brought to extremities; they will be respon-sible for the consequences." sible for the consequences."

The deduction we draw from these contemporaneous documents is that neither the besieged nor the besiegers are without some hope of scaring each other into reasonable terms of peace. The Circular Despatch is certainly premature, and contains a tacit admission that an entrance into Paris by main force is an unlikely event. May we not also infer from it that the surrender of the capital will not be enforced by bombardment? Several reasons against the perpetration of so terrific an outrage have been urged below, and we cannot but hope that they may have occurred to the mind of M. de Bismark, and have made their weight felt. On the other hand, the French Proclamation, though probably founded upon substantial facts, is manifestly dressed out in the optimist colours of a patriotic imagination. The truth seems to be that the chances of the combatants are now much nearer to an equality than they have been since the beginning of the war, and that the Germans will find themselves as unable to get into Paris, as the Parisians to get out. The contest seems likely, therefore, to be one of endurance on both sides, and they whose re-sources will enable them to hold their position longest, will have the most potent voice in arranging conditions of peace. Such a contest, however, will put upon the Germans a greater strain than even upon the Parisians. The resources of the latter, it is true, are limited, but they know the utmost extent of them, and will not add much to their present misery by economising them forthwith. The Germans have a larger area from which to draw supplies, but the process must necessarily be a wasteful one, and will be open to many interruptions, or, at any rate, liabilities to interruption. Ti of their armies, to the Parisians on account of the limitation of their food supplies. Neither of them, it is clear, scan the future with confidence—both probably have reserves of apprehension which they dare not reveal to the world.

Can nothing be done at this juncture to bring the parties once more face to face in negotiation? We know not whether anything, or if anything, what, is being done by neutral Governments to soothe the combatants into a more tractable disposition. Like drowning men, we catch at every straw. General Burnside, of the United States, is in communication with the besieged and the besiegers, and Mr. Washburne, the American Minister, is less bound than any of the other ambassadors in France by diplomatic etiquette. The former has seen the latter, and telegraphs through Count Bismark to President Grant, that he goes again to Paris. Whether the darkest hour in this most dismal war has come and is passing we are unable to determine -but, we must say, that we gather some faint encouragement from the fact that the two

COUNT BISMARK is growing fidgetty. He finds it difficult to restrain himself within the lines of diplomatic etiquette. He rushes into the field of journalism that he may pelt "special correspondents" with explosive telegrams. He sends out "Circular Notes" in rapid succession, as though anxious to conrapid succession, as though anxious to conciliate public opinion. What is the matter? Is he really troubled? and, if so, why? Does the retrospect make him uneasy, or is it the prospect by which his nerves are shaken? There is nothing in what lies behind him, we suspect, likely to disturb his self-possession. The military campaign has been conducted hitherto with unchequered success, and although the position of unquestionable supremacy achieved by the German armies has cost the Fatherland rivers of blood, M. de Bismark is not capable of expending much sentiment in consideration of the fact. If he is getting nervous, he is so, we venture to surmise, in anticipation of the awful business before him. A relaxation of his terms of peace, or a bombardment of Paris, is almost certainly the sole alternative now open to him. Will he elect to have recourse to the latter? Several are the reasons which should bid him pause.

To our unprofessional eye there are military reasons for not proceeding to extremities-or, we might more accurately, perhaps, express our meaning, if we were to say that the capture of Paris, with a view to which the bombardment threatened can be looked upon only as the most efficacious order of means, is a strategical undertaking encompassed by serious risks, and very uncertain of issue. We take for granted that Count Moltke has calculated all that is calculable. But military critics of high authority affirm that there are not a few elements of the problem which defy calculation. The siege of a vast metropolitan fortress, such as Paris, is a novelty, it is said, in the art of war. No one can pretend to foresee what will come of it. With a civil population twice as numerous as the combatants in defence, it might be supposed the combatants in defence, it might be supposed that a slight show of severity would suffice to compel a surrender. The result, however, will possibly be governed by a regard to any authority rather than that of proportionate numbers. The fate of a million people, held together by no organisation, may be determined by a mere handful of men, scrambling with some other handful of citizens to put or keep themselves uppermost. Nobody can say. Bombardment may hasten the crisis which will close the war. But what if it do not? What if it the war. But what if it do not? What if it drive the Parisians to desperation? Can Count Bismark guarantee the safety of the German armies for three months in a hostile country, and two or three hundred miles in advance of their base of operations?

But whatever may be the military argument But whatever may be the military argument against attempting too much, there are economical and financial reasons against it which are already sinking down into German hearts. Even the capture of Paris within the next month, and a treaty of peace extorted from the French Republic, will not so much better existing possibilities as to yield a fair compensation for the price which must be paid for it. The effort which Germany has made, and the strain she has put upon her resources and capastrain she has put upon her resources and capabilities, cannot be maintained indefinitely cannot perhaps be persisted in much longer.
Men enough might be forthcoming, no doubt;
money, or credit, might be counted upon with
safety till some time hence; but, meanwhile, the demands of the war are breaking up, or are eating the heart out of, the various industries of the country. Its exigencies have already mutilated commerce. The youth of Germany have been almost wholly withdrawn from productive employment. Heads of families, many of them successful traders, have been wrenched from the positions they occupied, and every day that passes will render it more difficult for those of them who survive to resume on their return home their social places and sober habits. Widows, orphans, and other relatives previously dependent upon men whom the war has devoured, will have to be sustained from public resources. No indemnity exacted from France can avert the economical embarrassment which every day's prolongation of hostilities is augmenting. Under any probable circumstances the future security to be gained by frontier readjustments will have to be paid for by the present generation at a rate far beyond even its estimated, and much more its real, worth to

Down to this stage of the contest, the sympathies of Europe have been with Germany. She was wantonly assailed. Imperial France went

certain that a bombardment of Paris will not reverse the current of European sympathy? Is it conceivable that the civilised world will witness without a violent revulsion of feeling a tempest of shot and shell directed against upwards of a million non-combatants—helpless women and innocent children, the infirm, the sick, the bedridden? If the laws of war do not forbid the deliberate exposure of so vast a multitude to the terror of a fiery devastation, and to all the agonising incidents which accompany it, will the higher law of humanity justify it? Will the King of Prussia earn the respect of civilised nations by stifling in his bosom all emotions of pity, and giving the signal for a rain of fire upon so dense a swarm of hapless and inoffensive fellow-creatures? The cynicism of the experiment will surely evoke a protest of horror from the hearts of on-looking peoples.

O, it is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous
To use it like a giant.

Count Bismark, whose duty it is to advise his Sovereign, may well pause before counselling a resort to such a dire extremity. Even he is not entirely indifferent to public opinion—and should he encourage his master so far to defy it as to wreak upon the metropolis of France all the evil which he has it in his power to wreak, he will for ever associate his name with the most ruthless victors known to history

We do not yet believe that Paris will be subjected by the Germans to bombardment. War, no doubt, is a cruel monster, but we can hardly realise such a display of indifference to human suffering in this latter half of the nineteenth century as this mode of conquering a peace would involve. The Vandalism of the exploit, however, will perhaps excite in influential quarters greater disgust than the cruelty of it. The beau monde will find it difficult to reconcile the defacement of Paris with any pretension to interest in art, or in that culture which Mr. M. Arnold identifies with "sweetness and light." To what extent M. de Bismark would attract towards himself the execration of the devotees of science, literature, and taste by carrying on "to its bitter end" the siege of Paris, or how far such a prospect might affect his decision, can be matter of speculation only. But it is not likely, we imagine, that he will get through the destructive work he seems to have resolved upon without being compelled to encounter remonstrances from many quarters which he will find it a matter of no little difficulty altogether to disregard.

But there is a further possibility that should be a subject of consideration by the Court and Government of Prussia. These are not days in which dynasties can outrage public convictions and sympathies with impunity. Is there not some danger that the scenes certain to be exhibited in and around Paris, if the siege goes on, may suggest to the labouring classes of all European States ideas extremely unfavourable to monarchy? To some extent, the war has done so already, for no one doubts that it owed its commencement to dynastic causes. Our own Chancellor of the Exchequer says that he has heard in its progress the knell of standing armies; may it not be that other warnings may be recognised in it? If the present form in which society in Europe is organised, imposes the necessity of gigantic armaments, and exposes to the contingency of devastating and sanguinary wars, may not the time be near at hand, and may not the siege and bombardment of Paris greatly hasten it, when public entiment will cea sanction that form, and when, in order to a reorganisation on some more rational basis, there will be a general sweeping away of Imperial and Royal thrones? Not a few political reasons condemnatory of pushing the duel between France and Germany à *l'outrance*, might be addressed to Count Bismark. The misery which will follow the war, not in France only, but, later on, in Germany, will tend to quicken and energise Liberal opinion throughout Europe. Prussia herself is not inaccessible to senti-ments which her old Soldier-King would deem revolutionary—and the union which the war is bringing about between North and South Germans will not be advantageous to feudalism. Recent events in Spain and Italy, the proclamation of the Republic in France, and various other episodes in the later annals of Europe, indicate an undercurrent of thought in the direction of a more popular organisation of States—and a cynical disregard of the general wish of civilised society by King William and his Government will add not a

little to its force.

out of the way to declare war against her. It it becomes unrighteous to enforce even a claim upon the final act of this bloody drama.

WILL HE?

out of the way to declare war against her. It it becomes unrighteous to enforce even a claim was in her strict right of self-defence that she invaded her neighbour's territory, and nobody could blame her for promptly following up the early successes she obtained. But is it quite German race. But her refusal to behave of right. France might have ended the war by ceding a slip of territory which she has unquestionably forfeited by past misconduct to the German race. But her refusal to behave rationally will not excuse her antagonist in retorting brutally. No political consideration will ever justify to the world's conscience the bombardment of a city in which a million of non-combatants are shut up. M. de Bismark knows that this will be the judgment of history on so atrocious a sin against humanity. When the moment for decision has arrived, will he incur the reproach? May he yield to the sway of more magnanimous intentions! of more magnanimous intentions!

POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES IN FRANCE.

SUCH a state of political complication as now exists in unhappy France is almost without a parallel in history. So far as present appearances afford any indication, it is an evil almost without a remedy. The German armies have overthrown the Empire, and are now carrying on the war against the French nation, which can hardly be said to have any recognised head. There is indeed a Government at Paris, which has taken very vigorous measures to defend the capital against the enemy. But the Executive would unquestionably be overthrown in Paris if it were to propose terms of peace acceptable to Count Bismarck; and it is in fact only allowed to continue at the head of affairs on condition of prosecuting the war to the bitter end. In the departments the authority of the Government is accepted in some places, and ignored in others. The eastern districts occupied by the Prussians sigh for peace; in the north the Republic is almost repudiated. The Democratic Socialists of Lyons, Marseilles, and some other places, are in league with the ultras of the capital; the peasantry, with remarkable unanimity, desire a peace which they are unable to secure; the trading and commercial classes seem disposed to accept any terms from the Germans which will avert the increase of anarchy.

The events of the past week have materially aggravated the difficulties of the situation, and made the prospects of France blacker than ever. To the other calamities which are overwhelming the country must be added serious differences among the members of the Government. It was evident that the scheme of a double Executive under such unique circumstances would not work long. The real Ministry, or at least its ablest members, have now for some three weeks been shut up in the invested capital. General Trochu and MM. Favre, Gambetta, Picard, and the rest have been able to enforce their authority in Paris, but have found no means of making their will known to the departments except by the precarious resource of express balloons. Upon MM. Crémieux, Glais-Bizoin, and Admiral Fourichon at Tours, fell the burden of ruling external France, and organising the national defences. Even here difference ing the national defences. Even here difference broke out, and the Minister of Marine has resigned. His colleagues, feeling their terrible responsibility, thought the time was come for convoking a Constituent Assembly, and the elections were fixed for next Saturday. The decree was promulgated in the country, and even candidates were selected in many districts. But, at the eleventh hour, it was announced that "the resolution of the Tours Delegation can only be the result of a misunderstanding: can only be the result of a misunderstanding; that it is in opposition with the decree of the Government of the National Defence, which is alone binding; that, besides, the execution of such a resolution is materially impossible in twent complete in the others." The nine members of the Government in Paris have, therefore, issued from the Hotel de Ville a fresh decree quashing the decision of the Tours Ministers, and postponing the elections "until they can be carried on throughout the whole extent of the Republic." Thus "the Government of Defence," plus the Republic, in name at least, imposed upon France first by the collapse of the Empire, and next by the will of "the gentlemen of the pavement," seems likely to remain till it is overthrown or renewed by a popular appeal or by a new revolution.

But now the French Republic is to be active and aggressive outside as well as within Paris. Gambetta has, like one of the Olympian deities, literally descended from the clouds (in a balloon) to direct the whirlwind. He arrived at Tours in a storm of thunder, lightning, and rain. He is invested by the Paris nine "with the most extensive powers." Under his auspices there is to be resistance à l'outrance. "Let Villiam and his Government will add not a us," says the new Minister of the Interior in name, and the Dictator in fact—"Let us make a There is a point of resistance beyond which pact with victory or death." Alas! the un-

may be wrapped up in that advice. France is to fight not only against dismemberment, but for "the Republic One and Indivisible." That is, those who now wield power have abandoned their tentative policy, and they now take upon themselves to decide for the country instead of by the country. Again within twenty years the Republic is imposed upon France by the capital, or rather by a section of the population of Paris. Surely our working men in clamouring for the premature recognition of the French Republic are accepting conclusions which, carried out, would logically justify usurpation, and which would cut away the safeguards of the British Constitution.

The experiment of a Republican form of Government in France carried on by moderate men like MM. Favre, Garnier-Pagès, and E. Arago—that is, by statesmen who sincerely re-pudiate the policy of conquest and the necessity of huge standing armaments, would have been interesting. These leaders have now placed themselves in a false and perilous position. They have chosen to associate their own favourite principle with all the national suffering and odium that must attend a prolongation of the war, and unless they can, by a supreme effort, drive out the German invader, they have by their precipitation beforehand doomed the Republic to failure and destruction. It is they upon whom will devolve the responsibility of making peace, and apparently there can be no peace but such as will be thought humiliating by France. In that case M. Favre and his friends will be the victims of the war. The French have an unfortunate habit of visiting their misfortunes upon the heads of those who may happen at the moment to be in power, and it will be indeed a marvel if the Republic should survive the arrangement of terms of peace should those terms involve a loss of territory.

It is the custom to throw all the faults of the present breakdown in France upon the Empire.
Undoubtedly Napoleon III. did his best to
undermine the independence and self-reliance
of the population in order that his personal government might remain unquestioned. But when he seized the throne, he found a ready instrument to work out his designs in the cen-tralising system originated by his uncle, and ever since preserved. The French people have been kept in a state of pupilage, almost of vassalage, for the convenience of the ruling power and the benefit of Paris. The entire power and the benefit of Paris. The entire country was drained of its intellect and resources that its beautiful capital might flourish. Local spirit, energy, and enterprise were discouraged. Every prefect, mayor, and petty official was dependent on the contral government and obliged to regard. Paris as the petty official was dependent on the contral government, and obliged to regard Paris as the one source of political influence and social life. Retribution has now come. The splendid capital of France is besieged, and calls in vain upon the country for help. The departments are bewildered. They have no local centres around which to rally—no unity, no cohesion. A nation of nearly forty millions is paralysed when it ought either to be organised for defence, or able to express a unanimous opinion in favour of peace. If one of the results of the present war should be the overthrow of centralisation and the abrogation of throw of centralisation and the abrogation of the ascendancy of Paris, it will be some com-pensation for the sufferings and humiliation which France is passing through.

BEGGARS.

However interesting or picturesque a beggar may be made to appear in the works of the artist or poet, in real life he is at bost a most unromantic and repulsive object; a being whom we prefer keeping at a distance from us, and who is tolerated only when there is literally no escape from his presence. Yet, if mere antiquity could render an occupation respectable, that of the mendicant ought to be one of the most honourable, for its origin is completely lost in the misty distance of the past. So ancient is the trade of beggary-for a trade it often undoubtedly is-that even tradition has failed to preserve the names of the first supplicants for alms, or to what nation they belonged. Yet it is possible that when some of our learned Dry-as-dusts have more fully betaken themselves to the study of the early history of mendicancy, they may light on some traces of the origin of a calling which for ages has baffled the efforts of sages and legislators to render it both unpopular and unprofitable. It has been said that if the modern Poor-law system had been known to the ancients, pauperism would have become unknown; but we are not quite so sure about this. The English Poor-law deals with effects, rather than with causes. Before we can extirpate the trade of

measured suffering—the unspeakable woes that | for all mendicants are not impostors. Were it otherwise, the remedy would be easy enough, for it would then be feasible to treat mendicancy as a crime; but, considering the present close relations subsisting between poverty and beggary, it is almost impossible to define where the real occupation of the habitual beggar begins or ends. We suspect that war has had much to do in all ages in developing the curse of beggary. We have numerous instances of this at the present moment in France. Smiling villages, in which poverty was comparatively unknown, and in which scarcely a pauper was to be met with, have suddenly become devastated, the labour of years destroyed in a single day, and whole families plunged, by an unexpected stroke, into the lowest depths of ruin. Even here the strong arms of the family bread-winners might, in due time, bring back some of the lost prosperity, and thus help to spare the wives and little ones from becoming miserable dependents on the bounty of their betterto-do neighbours. But when Jules's limbs are wholly disabled by a needle-gun bullet, and Hermann finds himself rendered a helpless cripple by the terrible fire of the mitrailleurs of his detested foes, how are these men to resume their former task of filling the family breadshelves? A friend, who has just returned from France, says that in the vicinity of Rouen, where the spectacle of a beggar was formerly rare, he has counted several hundreds in a single week.

> This is one of the gravest questions raised by the war. The conflict now taking place in France is sowing broadcast the seeds of a fearful amount of French and German pauperism, which it may take centuries to eradicate. War and drink are, in fact, the two great sources of poverty, and, consequently of beggary. We do not say that poverty is synonymous with mendicancy, but if there were no paupers there could be no beggars. Every war or civil convulsion in which this country has been engaged, has been followed by a marked increase of the class dependent upon public charity. Without going too far back into our national history, it may be noted that English pauperism received a considerable impetus from the devastations which marked the progress of the struggle which cost the stubborn Charles his crown. The fairest portions of this country were ruthlessly smitten as with a blight, and where industry and contentment once reigned, idleness and beggary prevailed. Gangs of disbanded soldiers, principally Royalists, infested the provinces, soliciting alms, and robbing any unprotected wayfarers who might fall in their way. Then there were the countless bands of distressed peasantry, whese homes had been destroyed, and whose means had become exhausted during the struggle which had transformed their country into a vast battle-field. They roamed about in all directions, until at last the patience of the townspeople became exhausted, and the begrudged alms were invariably accompanied by admonitory flogging. Such at least, is the story told us by some of the old parish registers of the overrun districts. When the continental wars engaged in by us began to fill the land with crowds of sick and orippled men, and when multitudes of helpless widows and orphans abounded, the number of beggars increased to a terrible extent. The poorlaws, such as they were, proved utterly inadequate to arrest the evil. It seemed as if the country was about to be consumed with the curse of pauperism. And then, when, after years of struggling, some progress was made in checking the increase of menncy, the outbreak of the s Napoleon utterly undid the work of social ameliora-

To the many wars we have been concerned in we really owe much of the chronic pauperism and mendicancy which now forms one of the great social problems of the day. Not a few of our habitual supplicants belong to families which have for generations formed a portion of the ranks of mendicancy. There is no rescuing them. Once a beggar, always a beggar, is a saying but too truthful to be questioned. Unless wo can interfere at the outset, unless we can rescue the victims while yet on the threshold of the vagrant's life, there is little prospect of any subsequent effectual help. The disabled soldier or the distressed peasant do not at first dream of becoming habitual beggars. They would shrink from the contemplation of such a fate. Yet they must beg or starve. And so they drift into the life of vagrancy from which there is no escape, dragging with them their offspring, and paving the way for future generations of beggars. But there are other causes of beggary-bodily infirmity being one of the most frebeggary, we must remove the causes of poverty, quent. At one time, blind beggars were common

objects in the streets, but with the increase of blind asylums and training-schools, they have almost disappeared. Of those who remain, few are deserving objects of charity. A detective officer employed by Colonel Henderson to investigate the condition of the London beggars, gives in his report an account of nine cases, in which the true story of the beggars is told. They all live by begging; three are blind and one is a cripple, but the others could work. Most of them are in the prime of life. Two women and one man are very troublesome, annoying, and abusive. Four of the nine are known to spend their evening in drinking, and often in getting drunk. As an example of the women, we may cite a blind woman who has been begging in the neighbourhood of Charing-cross for many years; she is very importunate, and not unfrequently abasive. She is a dissipated woman, and when the officer called at her address in the evening she had been drinking too freely to answer any questions. The charge-book of the A Division shows that she was sixteen times charged either with begging or being drunk and disorderly, and thirteen times sent to prison, in the six years 1863-68. On the other hand, some of the blind beggars are well conducted. A blind man, John Sullivan, is a very old professional beggar in the Oxford-street and Charing-cross neighbourhoods; he says he was formerly in the 67th Regiment. The officer says :- "He and his wife and two children are all supported by the proceeds of his begging; he and his family are well-conducted; he generally begs till very late in the evening." Cripples are still frequent in the streets, despite the establishment of special homes for their reception. There is one woman, a most hideous spectacle, whose head and body are twisted downward in a horrible manner, who daily parades the leading metropolitan thoroughfares. She, like many others of her class, is utterly incapable of obtaining a living, save by the practice of begging, yet were she willing to enter an institution, there are many who would assist her in so doing. Practically, there is no need for any cripple to remain in the streets; but, somehow or other, the routine life of a Home becomes too dull and burdensome to be endured; the freedom of the streets, despite the precarious living obtained therein, is more welcome than life in the well-provided but comparatively cheerless "Home." As a rule, this class of mendicants are anything but impostors. There is a daily mendicant in Regent-street and the neighbourhood, one Alfred Ellaway, who has been a cripple from his birth, and wheels himself along the footway upon a truck. The detective reports :- "He is the only support of an aged mother; the place they live at is exceedingly clean for the neighbourhood. I do not think this man or his mother by any means unworthy of the charity he receives."

It is among the beggars who study picturesque effect, that the impostors are principally to be found. Lambeth, Whitechapel, St. Giles, and similar localities are the principal resorts of these. Here the detective officer found a large proportion of the begging fraternity leading dissipated and drunken

Several are very saucy and insulting when refused relief. A woman begs with three small children; in such cases a family is made up often from the children of the court where the beggar lives, the different mothers lending them for a few pence, or for an evening's dissipation at a gin-palace. The officer says:—
"There is a great deal of cruelty in these cases; There is a great deal of cruelty in these cases; a long distance, and kept for many hours standing about in some thoroughfare." But here again he found blind persons, professional beggars, all their lifetime "regarded as orderly people." A woman with her husband garded as orderly people." A woman with her husband in a decline takes her children into the street with her, and supports the family by begging; the officer says; — "She has been begging for a long time, but she is not unworthy of charity." But he shows that the begging trade is, on the whole, a nuisance to be got rid of. Beggars in the streets are a serious annoyance. A Whitechapel beggar, "a very old beggar, but an orderly man," exposes a repulsive cancered face. Some sing psalms in the streets, or chalk figures on the pavement, collecting a crowd, obstructing the way, and creating an opportunity for the pickpocket. Deceit is encouraged. Two men professing to be sailors go about couraged. Two men professing to be sailors go about with a painting of a ship; one has lost both legs, owing, as he says, to injury sustained when wrecked at "Cape Castle," but the accident really occurred in the London Docks; these men often end the day with getting drunk and sometimes fighting one another. drunk, and sometimes fighting one another.

It is a fact that the most picturesque-looking beggars are generally the least deserving, yetithey, as a rule, obtain the largest amount of alms. The mar, woman, and group of small children, clean and decently attired, who stand on Saturday nights by the edge of the foot-pavement in working-class neighbourhoods, furnish an instance of this. A group of this class has been known to take from sixteen to seventeen shillings on a Saturday night, principally from working men and their wives. In fact, the working classes are as much prayed upon by the begging impostors as are the more affluent sections of society. But there is one class of beggars for whom something might and ought to be done? The detective found among the beggars several able-bodied mon who had served in the army for the shortest time allowed by the Enlistment Act, and then left it, and who find great difficulty in obtaining employment. He says that a man at thirty or thirty-five finds it almost impossible (if ever so willing) to get employment where manual labour is required, if the employer knows that he has served ten years in the army. Practical philanthropy might here assist with good effect. Why should not some of these men be assisted to emigrate? We suspect that the number of such involuntary mendicants is larger than most people think. The army-in its present state—is a bad school for an industrial career. But what is to be done? The question is a most difficult one. We have had trouble enough in dealing with the existing mass of pauperism; what if it should become increased? Yet such a contingency is by no means improbable. With the continuation of war on the continent, we may have to face the whole subject in its gravest and most complicated aspect. Still, there is one thing, which systematically practised, would do much to discourage imposture. This is, discrimination in almsgiving. But then how many are willing to take this trouble on themselves?

THE WAR.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

(Continued from page 974.)

In Danger at Lyons, -In one of a series of Times In Danger at Lyons. —In one of a series of Times letters, headed "Provincial France," we have an account of a visit to a Red Republican gathering at Lyons. The writer was accompanied by an officer, into whose charge he had been given as a suspected person in the streets, and with whom as the result of his explanations he had formed a somewhat close acquaintance. The officer was awars that the object of his companion in going to the meeting was to of his companion in going to the meeting was to report it to the Times:—"We found the hall, which served at night as a singing saloon, and could contain 1,200 or 1,500 people, about three-fourths full. An old man, not unlike Mazzini, occupied the chair, An old man, not unlike Mazzini, occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings by reading a proposal of his own to form a committee of five to be called a 'Committee for Public Safety.' As this proposal was accompanied by a severe criticism of the existing Administration, it was evident that the intended committee would be, so to speak, an opposition Government. On this ground the proposal was most eloquently and forcibly denounced by a young man, who so completely carried the meeting with him that the President, finding his suggestion falling in favour, rose to protest against any further opposition to it; but this being considered a somewhat arbitrary proceeding on the part of a chairman, he was shouted at until he sat down in despair and allowed the impassioned young orator by his side to work up his audience to the highest pitch of patriotic enthusiasm. Then an insipid-looking youth read a memo-Then an insipid-looking youth read a memorandum which he had drawn up on the reconstruction of the army, containing thirty-two proposals, each one more absurd than the other, and which were received with the contempt they deserved. He was followed by an elderly man, who proposed as a first measure for the national defence the altering the names of all the streets. The auditance who throughout aboved more sense than the ence, who throughout showed more sense than the ence, who throughout showed more sense than the speakers, would not tolerate another word from this sage, and began to get somewhat impatient at the absence of any practical suggestions; my friend especially insisted upon loudly expressing his disapprobation of the President and the speakers generally, and I regret that most of the interruptions proceeded from the quarter which, from personal considerations, I should have desired to remain as quiet as possible. Suddenly, during an unsual confusion, the President announced that he had a communication of importance to make to the meeting. A profound sile ensued, and in tones which penetrated me with horror and dismay, this dreadful old man solemnly stated that somewhere in their midst at that very moment was seated a correspondent of the Times.

The storm which followed this announcement drowned his future utterances; the most harsh allusions to the offending journal were mingled with cries of 'Where is he?' 'Turn him out!' 'Only let me get at him!' 'Don't let him escape.' 'He is sold to Prussia." As I was unfortunately seated in the middle of the room, any attempt to walk away would have at once pointed me out as the victim, so I tried to look as unconcerned as possible. I may even have attempted a feeble shout, but with 600 people yelling at you, it requires great presence of mind to yell at yourself, and my voice died away in my throat. My poor friend, whose indiscretion had betrayed me to some of his gossiping companions, whispered that we must absolutely risk a retreat in the presence of the enemy, and I was the more inclined to take his advice as a disagreeable creature on my right was howling at me louder than any one, and kept asking me where I thought I was-as if I should not have given the world to be where, alas! I was not. I was afraid even to tell him that I had

already escaped, for fear of betraying my nationality. At last a good-natured man suggested that such violence was not consistent with freedom; but, although this seemed reasonable, not a soul in the room appeared to agree with him; on the contrary, they were getting so exasperated at not being able they were getting so ex-sperated at not being able to find me, and the consequences when they did find me would evidently be so very unpleasant, that I determined to follow my friend's advice, and told him to lead the way. At that moment, most fortunately, several persons left their seats, probably with the view of looking for me, and the confusion became so general that we managed to slip unperceived to the door; my guide, to show his unconcern, humming the 'Marseillaise' in loud but somewhat agitated strains. The feeling of relief on finding myself alone and safe in the open street is quite indescribable."

THE TURCO PRISONERS UNDER RELIGIOUS IN-STRUCTION .- There are at this time in Ulm upwards of 300 Turcos. M. Lowitz, long employed as a missionary in Algiers, who knows Arabic well, has visited them on behalf of an English religious society, and recently received permission from the military authorities to address them. They were in consequence directed to meet for a religious service in an outwork of the fort. Many officers were present to see what went on. First there appeared a priest who had found his way among them, and who read one chapter after another out of the Koran, but in so low a voice that his hearers gradually got tired, and called out to him, "Stop now, we have had enough." Then M. Lowitz came forward, and received the Koran from the hands of the priest, and ceived the Koran from the hands of the priest, and read out the first chapter, causing each sentence to be repeated after him by the Turcos. That excited interest among them, and when he delivered an address they nodded and called out frequently, "That is true, quite true." At the close he prayed. Then the Turcos came up, kissed his hand, and said, "You are sent by God."—Suabian Mercury.

THE FUTURE OF FRANCE.—In one of his interesting series of letters from Paris in the Daily News, "A Besieged Resident," under date September 27th, gives the following notes of a conversation:—"I was talking this morning to a gentleman who used at one time to play a very important part in public life, who is well acquainted with most of the members of the Government, and who is a man of calm judgment. I was anxious to obtain his opinion upon the situation, and this is a resumt of what he told me. 'When J. F.,' he said, 'went to Bismark, he was prepared to agree to the dismantlement of the fortresses of Aleace agree to the dismantiement of the fortresses of Alsace and Lorraine, the cession of half the fleet, the payment of an indemnity of eighty millions of pounds, and an agreement for a term of years not to have a standing army of more than 200,000 men. A Constituent Assembly would have ratified these terms. The cession of a portion of the fleet is but tentemount to the newment of money. The cession of a portion of the fleet is but tentamount to the payment of money. The con-scription is so unpopular that a majority of the nation would have been glad to know that the standing army would henceforward be a small one. As for the fortresses, they have not been taken, and yet they have not arrested the Prussian advance on yet they have not arrested the Prussian advance on Paris, consequently their destruction would not seriously weaken the defences of the country.' I asked whether Paris would now consent to these terms. 'No,' he said, 'if the Government offered them there would be a revolution. Paris, rightly or wrongly, believes that she will be able to hold out for two months, and that during this time there will be a lenée en masse.' 'And do you share this opinion?' I asked. 'I am not of a very sanguine character,' he replied, 'but I really am now inclined to believe that the Prussians will never enter Paris unless they starve us into a surrender.' Paris unless they starve us into a surrender.'
'Then,' I said, 'I suppose they will starve us out.'
'I am an old man,' he said, 'and I always remem-'I am an old man,' he said, 'and I always remember Phillip's saying, "Time and I are two." In two months many things may happen. Winter is coming on. The Prussian army is composed of men engaged in business at home and anxious to return; the North does not love the South, and divisions may arise. The King of Prussia is an old man, and he may die. Without absolutely counting upon a French army raising the siege, there are levies forming in Lyons and elsewhere, and the Germans will find their communications seriously menaced. Russia, too, and Austria may interfere, so I think that we are wise to resist as long as we can.' 'But if you have to capitulate, what will happen?' I asked. 'If we do capitulate our disaster will be complete,' he answered. 'I do not anticipate disorders; the population of Paris is an intelligent one, it wishes the Government to resist as long as it can, but not to prolong an impossible situation. can, but not to prolong an impossible situation. Paris must do her part in defending the country, she can do no more. 'Well,' I said, 'supposing that the Prussians were to withdraw, and peace were to be concluded on reasonable terms, what do you think would take place?' 'Gambetta, Jules Ferre and the majority of the Parisian Jules Favre, and the majority of the Parisian Deputies would call a Constituent Assembly as soon as possible, and resign power into its hands. They are moderate Republicans, but between a Red Republic and a Constitutional Monarchy they would prefer the latter. As practical men, from what I know of them, I am inclined to think that they would be in favour of the Orleanist family—either the Comte de Paris, or the Duc d'Aumale.' 'And would the majority of the Constituent Assembly go with them?' I asked. 'I think it would,' he replied. 'The Orleanist fam'ly would mean peace. Of late years Frenchmen have cared very little for military glory: their dream has been to save money. One glory; their dream has been to save money. One advantage of our disasters is that it has limited the number of pretenders to the throne, for after the

capitulation of Sedan, neither the army nor the pea-

sants will support a Bonaparte. There will be two parties—the ultra-Republicans, and the advocates of a Constitutional Monarchy under a Prince of the House of Orleans. Unless the friends of the Orleans Princes commit some great fault, they are masters of the situation."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. M. B. Riddle writes to the Presb yterian Banner from Heidelberg that the King of Prussia "is an earnest Christian, as is Von Moltke, the planner of campaigns; while Von Roon, the Minister of War, is one of the comparatively few men in Germany who gathers his household daily and leads their devotions."

A telegram was sent on the 6th ult. to the Queen of Prussia from Paris by some members of the League of Peace, beseeching her, in the name of the inexof Peace, besecohing her, in the name of the inexpressible and reciprocal sufferings of both nations, in the name of humanity, in the name of the God of the Gospel, that the wife and mother of the victorious chiefs would interfere to prevent the further effusion of blood. To this Her Majesty replied through Herr von Sydow, the President of the Society for giving Aid to the Wounded, that the profound evil caused by the war was felt in the hearts of all wives and mothers, and that the Queen participated in that feeling as a true Christian. "God alone," Her Majesty says, "can bring to a good end this destructive contest so gratuitously provoked, but it is the duty of all friends of peace to aid towards that end."

A correspondent of the Daily News gives several particulars of extensive purchases of arms, munitions of war, &c., for France. Last Saturday one agent alone received an order for 50,000 chassope alone received an order for 50,000 chassopots, but not being able to meet such a demand at so short a time, an offer was made for 5400 Tower cap guns, 18,000 sniders, and 9,000 new Russian guns, all to be fitted with bayonets. The order also comprised 17,000 Colt's six-chamber revolvers. Five million pounds of gunpowder have also been ordered, besides large quantities of percussion caps, boots, and other kinds of clothing. Cartridges cannot be obtained in sufficient quantities. There is a stipulation in the contracts that the place of debarkation for the material shall be a certain neutral port in the Mediterranean.

The Japanese authorities are taking measures to

The Japanese authorities are taking measures to prevent a naval engagement between the French and Prussian corvettes stationed in these waters.

A telegram from Bucharest says:—"In reply to a question put to the Russian Consul-General in this city respecting the reported concentration of troops in Bessarabia, a telegram categorically denying the truth of the rumour has been received from the Governor-General of Odessa." The Russian Government has recently given assurances in Berlin of its peaceful intentions in every direction.

Bonaparist Plottess in Belgium.—The In-

BONAPARTIST PLOTTERS IN BELGIUM.-The Indépendance Belge contains an article denouncing the

dipendance Belge contains an article denouncing the Bonapartist plotters, who, it says, are openly conspiring in Belgium to recover power. The Indipendance urges the abrogation of the law relating to aliens, which it considers already abrogated in point of fact by their proceedings.

The French Government bave adopted a new seal. The obverse bears the figure of Liberty with the legend, "In the name of the French people"; the reverse, a wreath of oak and olive, with a sheaf of corn. In the centre of the wreath are the words, "The French Republic, Democratic, one and indivisible," and the legend is, "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity." Fraternity.'

Foreign and Colonial.

ITALY AND ROME.

The following is the total result of the Plébiscite

in the Roman provinces:

Number of voters on the lists ...

Number who voted

Number who voted "Yes" ...

Number who voted "No" 135,291 1,507

Number who voted "No" ... 1,507
Votes annulled ... 103
A telegram from Florence of the 9th says:—"The
Roman deputation, composed of thirty gentlemen,
after accepting a municipal breakfast at Pisa, arrived
at Florence at half-past three on Saturday afternoon.
They met with a most enthusiastic reception. The
National Guards and soldiers fined the streets, which
were adorned with flags and festoons of tricolored
hangings. Dense crowds of people applauded the
deputation during their progress, crying, "Evviva
Rome, Italy, and King Victor Emanuef!" One of
the King's Aides-de-Camp and two Masters of the
Ceremonies represented the Court at the station.
The Municipal Councillors, headed by the Syndic
Poruzzi, received the deputation, and accompanied it
to the Hotel New York. This evening a banquet at to the Hotel New York. This evening a banquet at the Caseines takes place."

The following is a telegram later in the same day : The following is a telegram later in the same day:
"To-day, at eleven o'clock, the reception of the
Roman deputation took place at the Pitti Palace.
The King was surrounded by the whole of the Royal
family, members of the Government, and the
municipal and military dignitaries. The reception
took place amid a scene of great pomp in the Throneroem of the Palace, and the Piazza Pitti, which was decorated suitably for the occasion, was densely crowded by the people. The square was lined by troops of all arms, and the King and the Duke of Sirmonetta were obliged, by the shouts of applause raised by the populace, to appear on the balcony of the Palace. After the reception a solemn ceremony took place in the Piazza Signoria, the object being to uncover, under the Loggia dei Anzi, a stone bearing

an inscription to the effect that the Roman pléblacite had consecrated the union of Italy. Although, un-ortunately, the weather proved unfavourable, an immense concourse of people was present at both of the ceremonies, during which constant salutes of cannon were fired."

On Sunday evening an imposing and enthusiastic demonstration in honour of the Roman delegates took place at the special performance in the Teatro Pagliano, Florence. The King, the deputation, Prince Humbert, and the Princess Margherita, were present, and were greeted with loud and often re-

newed applause.

The King's official answer on receiving the Plebiscite states his grateful acceptance of the votes of the Romans, and his purpose, as a Monarch and as a Catholic, to render secure the freedom of the Church, and the spiritual independence of the Holy

Victor Emmanuel, it is stated, goes from Florence,

not to Rome, but to Turin.

A Royal decree is promulgated at Florence, declaring that Rome and the Roman provinces constitute an integral part of the Kingdom of Italy. The Pope preserves his dignities and the inviolability of his personal prerogatives as Sovereign. A law will be passed settling the conditions which are to guarantee the territorial freedom and independence of the Pope and the free exercise of his spiritual authority.

Another decree has been published, appointing
General La Marmora Lieutenant-Governor of the Roman provinces. A decree has been promulgated at Roma introducing there the laws of the kingdom. An amnesty has been granted to persons imprisoned

for some political crimes and offences.

The Berlin Official Gazette denies the statement that on the 7th of September the King of Prussia wrote to the Pope, declining the Papal request for intervention. Since the letter of the Pope of the 22nd of July, and His Majesty's reply on the 30th of that month, no correspondence whatever has taken place

between the two Sovereigns. The Roman correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette gives the following details relative to the popular vote of Sunday week:—

Despite the prohibitions, the manœuvres to prevent their voting, the banner of the inhabitants of the Leonine City floats alone in front of the Senators' Palace of the Capitol. Six thousand Romans, inhabitants of the Borgo, simply because St. Peter's and the Vatican chanced to be built in their midst, condemned to have their Rione reduced to a Catholic Ghetto—as one of their returned excles put it pithily—impossible! So the Romans of the 11th Rione gave it clearly to be understood that vote they should, vote they would, if prevented legally by setting up a private pidbiscite of their own. The Giunta was at its wits' ends, Lanza having so expressly exhorted them "not to embroil him further with the Pope." At last some wit suggested that, instead of summoning the Romans to vote by and in their fourteen Rione, they should vote in classes or corporations—merchants, tailors, soldiers, sailors. Thus, if they had a mind, the Leonines could come in, if they chose, without the formal recognition of the "eleventh Rione." The idea was adopted, and the different arts and trades chose their rendezvous, and with flags and music marched to the different voting places, and thence to the Piazza of the Capitol up the Via Crucis, down the central staircase, at the foot of which are the two Egyptian lions. Those who voted at the Capitol came up the central staircase, deposited their tickets in the urn under the arcades of the "Conservators' Palace," each vote being guaranteed by the name of the voter, so that none could vote twice. The windows were splendidly decorated with the banner of the Old Senate, gold and crimson, and the Italian tricolor, surmounted by the S.P.Q.R.—Senatus, Populusque Romanus so that none could vote twice. The windows were splendidly decorated with the banner of the Old Senate, gold and crimson, and the Italian tricolor, surmounted by the S.P.Q.R.—Senatus, Populusque Romanus—which inscription literally haunts one from the arch of Septimus Severus to the walls of our own apartment. There was not the shadow of confusion. Each corporation was hailed with a burst of music from one of the three bands which occupied the Piazza, the squeaking, piping efforts of the "orphans" band being decidedly on amateur. The most imposing procession was that of the artisans—over 5,000—and the inimitable gesture of their standard-bearer as he turned at the top of the central staircase, between the statues of Castor and Pollux, and, pointing to the immense line, seven file deep, which reached down to the Geau, exclaimed, "Here are the four faziozi," or disturbers of the peace, will never be forgotten by those who heard and saw. He alluded, of course, to the Papal expression that there are but "four malcontents in Rome."

The most respectable procession was that of the jewellers, about 2,000, with their flag, "Arte degli Orafi." The most touching procession was that of the returned exiles, who, if all were here, would amount to

Oraji." The most touching procession was that of the returned exiles, who, if all were here, would amount to 20,000. They came with their flag, "Returned Exiles," and had a magnificent welcome. But the procession of the day was that of the Leonines. The illegal voters had prepared a crystal urn, in which they deposited their "Si's," with a notary to unlawfully witness, sign and seal. All night they worked at their banners; at eleven they started from the Piazza San Pietro, deafening Pope, cardinals, and priests with the "Royal March." They had over forty banners. Our eyes grew dazzled at the eternal "Si, si, si. We will the annexation." The flag of the city was splendid, with "Città Leonina." in Roman characters, "Si, si, si." and the words, "Liberty and Work." At least 2,000, on they marched, with their sealed crystal urn in front, applauded by the spectators on the pavement, by the myriads from the balconies and windows. On to the Capitol, where each voted in propria persond, amid the myriads from the balconies and windows. On to the Capitol, where each voted in proprid persond, amid the shouts of the populace and the music of the bands. The Giunta, up to the time I left the Capitol, allowed their city banner alone to be hoisted. Am I right in saying that this day seals the downfall of spiritual power? The Papal soldiers forgot to wind up the St. Angelo clock on the 20th, and the Leonines insist that it shall never be wound up more

be wound up more.

The Romans are, on the whole, content with the conduct of the Giunta, which has prohibited the alienation of the ecclesiastical property (this for the priests), and which has declared the artistic and archeological monuments of the City and Province of Rome to be municipal

property, and retained to the Commune the right of directing, executing, or contracting for all works of excavation, and fixed a sum of 300,000 annually for the purpose. This done by the Italian Government, which has sold even the sands of the Italian shores!

In an interesting letter, dated Oct. 5, the Roman correspondent of the Daily News expresses his belief that the Pope will not come to terms with the King of Italy. He says:—

that the Pope will not come to terms with the King of Italy. He says:—

A Roman nobleman and gentleman who, on account of his warm sympathies for the Pope, has even at this moment free access to the Vatican, was telling me yesterday that nobody can imagine the state they are in on the other side of the Tiber. Those masters of subtlety and cunning find themselves at a loss what to do. The Pope has lost his usual calm; he goes from one room to the other, profits by the fine weather, and walks round the garden, asking whether any messenger has returned from either Austria, Belgium, or Portugal, and stamps his feet with indignation, crying against the indifference shown by European States towards him and his cause. He has given orders that all the windows looking towards the square of St. Peter and the Angelina Gate should be shut up, and whenever he hears the drums of the 3rd Grenadiers, quartered near the Vatican, beat, he puts his fingers to his ears. After addressing the circular I have translated, the Pope felt sure that immediately the members of the Diplomatic Corps here would meet, and would take steps to inform their respective Governments of the situation he found himself in. Now, it appears that, with the exception of Count Arnim, not one of the members of the Diplomatic Body have accosted either the Pope or Cardinal Antonelli since the 20th September. Only the Belgian Minister addressed a note to the Cardinal of State, in which he declared that his Sovereign would be most happy to receive him should he abandon Rome. But the funniest thing was this. On the last day of the month all those prelates and priests who receive regular pensions from the Court looked into each other's faces as much as to say, "Where are we to go for our money?" To their utter astonishment they beheld an employé of the Italian Government present himself to the Vatican and disburse the sums due to each of them. The sums paid amounted to fifty thousand scudi. In the Vatican and disburse the sums due to each of them. The sums paid amounted to fifty thousand scudi. In this special circumstance neither the Pontiff nor his this special circumstance neither the Pontif nor his Ministers thought proper to protest against the usurping invader. It being reported that Count Arnim, the Prussian Minister here, paid particular attentions to the Pontiff, Count Prassier de Saint Simon, the Minister residing at Florence, thought proper to telegraph to Count Bismark and ask whether Count Arnim had received special instructions to that effect. Count Bismark replied in the following precise terms, "Nothing pothing nething." Nothing, nothing, nothing."

According to the Journal de Bruxelles the Jesuit

Fathers are leaving Rome.

Cardinal Antonelli has protested on behalf of the Holy See against the "sacrilegious spoliation" committed "by the Government established in Florence." Profiting, the document says, by the reverses of the French, it formed the disloyal resolution to consummate the spoliation when the most perfect tranquillity prevailed everywhere, and especially in

The Times has been requested to contradict some otatements occurring in a letter from Lord Denbigh respecting incidents connected with the occupation of Rome by the Italian troops. It is not true that "earnest remonstrances" were made by the Diplomatic Body to General Cadorna on the occasion of the entrance of the Italian troops into Rome, or that a convention was made with those diplomatists stipulating that all the foreign Zouaves should be sent to Marseilles. No remonstrances whatever were made by the Diplomatic Body, and the convention relating to the Papal army was made by General Cadorna in the name of the King of Italy, and by General Kanzler in that of the Papal Government, without the least intervention by any member of the Diplo-

matic Body.

It is believed, that in consequence of the annexation of the new Roman provinces to the Italian kingdom, the Government of Victor Emmanuel will guarantee the payment of the Pontifical debt, to the sum of twenty-two millions.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The news of the breaking out of the European war created a sensation in Cape Colony. The Germans held a meeting at Capetown, and appointed a committee to raise subscriptions for the support of the sufferers in the war. They also forwarded an sufferers in the war. They also forwarded an address to the King of Prussia expressing sympathy with the Fatherland in the great struggle in which they were eng ged. The meeting broke up with cheers for the King of Prussia, and more hearty cheers for the unity of Germany. The English colonists were anxious lest England should involve herself in the struggle. The effect of the war on the wool market was also a source of anxiety in the

The diamond fever had somewhat abated for the time from the news of the war, but it had previously been increasing and was likely to still further increase. Another large quantity of gems has been found. The Natal Mercury of the 20th of August says:—"Every week's post brings fresh news of diamond finds on the Vual River, and a continuous addition to the diggers there. Stores and canteens have been erected on the diamond fields, and regular conveyances from Durban organised. The diggers' committee, chosen by general vote, were managing affairs well. News from Tatin state that Nobengula has been installed King of the Matabele, and has conceded the Tatin goldfields to the London and Lieuwers Mining Company. The Government and Limpopo Mining Company. The Governor of Quillimaine protests against this arrangement with the company, and d clares the territory north of the Limpopo belongs to the Portuguese Government. The northern goldfields have been conceded to Mr. Limpopo belongs to the Portuguese Government.
The northern goldfields have been conceded to Mr.
Baines. A transport company for conveying goods and passengers from Capetown to the diamond wife he had seduced. The house of Ross, Riel's

fields has been formed. It was rumoured that 180carat diamonds had been discovered, but the report was not confirmed."

CHINA.

The Times publishes a letter from Shanghai of Aug. 11, from which the following is an extract:—

Aug. 11, from which the following is an extract:—

Matters have been progressing very slowly at Tientsin, and the chances of coercion becoming necessary to secure the punishment of the culprits appear equally balanced. Seven weeks have now elapsed since the massacre occurred, at the notorious instigation of the city officials, and by the act of a body of men whose leaders are officially recognised and registered. Yet no show of punishment has been made, beyond the removal of the Prefect and magistrate from office, and the arrest of a dozen of the rioters, to whom, however, nothing has been done. I cannot but think that if the Government were sincere in its expressions more decided results would have been obtained. It looks very much as though the opinions of the Chinese were true, that none of the leaders will be sacrificed unless under coercion; that Tseng-kwo-fan will not execute them, and that the Central Government cannot in opposition to the wishes of the powerful party which he them, and that the Central Government cannot in opposition to the wishes of the powerful party which he represents. His object seems to be to gain time, and rumour says he is assembling large bodies of troops near Tientsin in case the French should eventually resort to hostilities. The illness which he has pleaded for the last week deceives no one. Chinese mandarins always get ill when a task awaits them which they want to shirk. Now a high official named Maochang Ni, President of the Board of Works, has been deputed to aid him in his investigations. The Prefect and the City Magistrate have gone to Paonting foo, the provincial capital, to surrender themselves to the provisional Judge as a preliminary formality to their going on to Pekin to be judged by the Board of Punishments. At least, this is the official statement of the case. One can only regret that, after seven weeks, they should have got no further on their road to a punishment which they got no further on their road to a punishment which they so clearly merit.

The astounding news which reached us yesterday by telegraph of the outbreak of war between France and Prussia adds to the gravity of the crisis. The knowledge that the barbarians are fighting among themselves at home will encourage the anti-foreign party still more to resist French demands, if it do not encourage them to develope still further the hostile plans to which I have before alluded. Even now there is hardly time for the French to undertake operations with any chance of com-French to undertake operations with any chance of com-pleting them before the Peiho is frozen, in November. pleting them before the Peiho is frozen, in November. And for foreigners to remain in Pekin and Tientsin during the winter with the question unsettled would be a greater risk than they would be likely to incur or the Foreign Ministers to advise. And yet the occurrence of war at this time is likely to encourage the Chinese to resist, at the same time that it may prevent the despatch of troops from France to coerce them.

There has been hardly time yet for the effect of the war news to make itself fully felt in our markets. One immediate effect has been to stop silk purchases completely, and to slightly lower the rate of exchange.

Advices received at Rombay from Chine mention

Advices received at Bombay from China mention a rumour that Prince Kung has been assassinated. A telegram from Hong Kong, dated September 15, ays rumours are current of further assassinations

caused by the anti-foreign feeling. Troops are massing between Tientsin and Pekin, ostensibly to protect foreigners, though their real object is considered doubtful.

A telegram received from Shanghai, viâ Kiachta, dated Sept. 22, states that great excitement prevailed in China, and that troops were demanded from India. Advices from Kia-Hing of Sept. 10 announce that the people had destroyed several Roman Catholic buildings, and attempted to set them on fire, but were restrained by the authorities.

A telegram has been received at the Foreign Office from Mr. Wade, dated the 26th of September, and stating that all was quiet at Pekin and Tientsin.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Senor Olozaga, the Spanish Ambassador in Paris, has sent in his resignation, which has been accepted.

The Italian Government has taken the initiative of a declaration, by which it categorically repudiates all notion of claiming Nice.

General Garibaldi has addressed a letter to his friends at Nice, advising them to discontinue their

agitation in order not to create any embarrassment to France.

There is no truth in the report that General Lee is paralysed and dying. He is only suffering from over fatigue through presiding at a protracted meeting of the Educational Society.

It is stated that the Prussian Parliament is to be dissolved. Count Bismark expects a more trustworthy majority for the Government as the result of the new elections.

According to the Berlin correspondent of the Times, the ex-King Francis of Naples, not wishing to remain at Rome after its occupation by the Italians, will remove to Munich. He has bought the Château of Garothshausen, in Upper Bavaria.

An earthquake has occurred in Calabria, by which many lives have been lost, and immense damage done. The villages of Mangone, Crait, Cillana, and Longobuego, have been almost entirely destroyed.

RUSSIA AND THE BLACK SEA .- The Pesther Lloyd professes to have good authority for stating that a circular despatch of Prince Gortchakoff, sent off within the last few days, demands the removal of the restrictions on the navigation of the Black Sea, on the ground that Russia requires ships of war there for the military command of the Caucasus.

THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT .- The French halfbreeds at the Red River are showing a disposition to Chief Justice, has been burned—it is supposed by an

incendiary.

The Archbishops and Bishops of Belgium have issued pastoral letters to the clergy and faithful, calling on them to offer up prayers for the Pope, whose only choice was imprisonment in the Vatican

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.—A despatch has just reached the Colonial Office from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, stating that a violent outbreak of cattle plague has commenced along the countries bordering upon the River Plate, and that an equally virulent disease has set in amongst the sheep in that quarter. Intimation of the matter has been conveyed to the Veterinary Department of the Privy Council, from whence circulars have emanated through the Commissioners of Customs instructing the utmost virilence to be exercised at the various the utmost vigilance to be exercised at the various

the utmost vigilance to be exercised at the various ports of the kingdom, in order to prevent the import of diseased animals. Recently some cattle, but more particularly sheep, have been imported from the countries now affected by the plague.

THE NEW AMERICAN MINISTER.—The American correspondent of the Times writes Sept. 20th,—"The Hon. Oliver P. Morton, the United States Senator from Indiana, was to-day appointed Minister to England to succeed Mr. Motley. Mr. Morton will proceed to London at an early date. He is in infirm health, but is one of the leading men of the country. health, but is one of the leading men of the country, a strong Republican, and altogether of a different class from that whence the President has been drawing most of his appointments. Morton has great influence in the West, and his views on the Alabama controversy are almost as pronounced as those of Mr. Sumner. He may be regarded as a representative man of American ideas, and will be confeil to do an leave underso nothing that will careful to do, or leave undone, nothing that will

tend to lessen his popularity at home."
THE POPE AS A MARTYR.—The Holy Father consoles himself with the raptures of martyrdom. 'He seems never to have been more calm and serene in his life; it has been the dream of the last twenty years for him; the crown of the martyr would put a brilliant finishing stroke to the end of his career. He considers himself in the light of a prisoner till He considers himself in the light of a prisoner till now, complains bitterly of the "manque d'égards" shown by General Cadorna in not requesting an audience—which request, by the way, would in all probability have met with a refusal—and talks to everybody of his being deprived of a special post and telegraph, and consequently been obliged to give receipts for telegrams like other mortals, and have his letters brought by a common postman as if he werea simple grocer. General Cadorna hereupon immediately ordered a telegraphic and nostal office to be simple grocer. General Cadorna hereupon immediately ordered a telegraphic and postal office to be placed at His Holiness's disposal, under the direction of officials of his own choice, and has even opened a channel for free private communication with the sea. However, Pio Nono has refused all these privileges, and prefers playing the part of a martyr imprisoned while his Holy City is given up to every species of indignity and sacrilege, and, if we are to faith in the sensational recitals of the *Unita Cattolica*, left to the horrors and indignities of a foreign invasion.—Letter from Rome.

GARIBALDI ON THE SITUATION.—The following letters are sent to the Pall Mall Gazette by one of Garibaldi's English friends:—"Caprera, Sept. 27. My dear Haweis,—I shall not go to France, and, like you, I am an avowed partisan of peace. Nevertheless, in the interests of humanity, I would fain see England, which, more than any country in the world, is the classic land of peace, take the initiative in the formation of a world-wide Areopagus, and thus put an end to those savage massacres with which at this moment central Europe is cursed. I have sent the following ideas to Berlin and Stock-holm, and I now enclose you a copy of them, in order that you may give them publicity, should you think it advisable to do so.—Yours, G. GARBALDI."
—"Caprera, September 6, 1870.—Mr. A. Schon
(Stockholm),—It is superfluous to detail to you my humanitarian principles. French, Scandinavian, German, they are all my brethren; and if I have desired the triumph of the Prussian arms, my only motive has been a longing for the overthrow of the most execrable tyrant of modern times. I am here a prisoner through the influence of Buonaparte over the Florence Government, and if I could get out of this island and effect an entrance into France, I should be most certainly arrested there. You know, think that this very circumstance affords a good opportunity for once more broaching the subject. The United States, England, Scandinavis, France, and Germany, under whose protection all the lesser Powers might range themselves, would form a magnificent basis for this world-wide union; and the deputies of all the monarchies and republics from all the nations in the world should form an Areopagus at Nice, a free city, and could there establish as the first articles of a universal constitution the following:—1st. War between nations an impossibility. 2nd. Any difference arising between any of them to be submitted to the Areopagus, for pacific adjudication. If my ideas seem to you good, spread them abroad.—G. GARIBALDI."

Court, Official, and Personal Bews.

Preparations are being made at Windsor Castle for the reception of Her Majesty and the Royal family,

who are expected to arrive, according to the present arrangements, on the 2nd of next month.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise of Hesse-Darmstadt has been safely delivered of a son. Both the Princess and infant are doing well.

The Prime Minister was in Liverpool on Monday, and paid a visit to the Mayor at the Town Hull.

The Observer states that there is no foundation

whatever for the report that the Government intend to hold a winter session of Parliament in November.

Mr. Childers, the First Lord of the Admiralty,

who returned from Switzerland on Monday evening, resumed his duties at the Admiralty yesterday. The right hon. gentleman's health has greatly improved.

THE NEW EDUCATION ACT.

The Committee of Privy Council on Education have issued an order respecting the school board for London, fixing the boundaries of the divisions of the metropolis, with the number of members to be elected by each division, and appointing the returning officer for the first election of the board, which is to consist of forty-nine members. The Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Southwark, Westminster, and Chelsea are to have the same boundaries as the Parliamentary boroughs of the same pages "availabling such tary boroughs of the same names, "excluding such parts as are outside the metropolis." The returning officer for the first election is to be the Right Hon. Russell Gurney, Q.C., Recorder of London. A schedule gives the number of members to be elected for each division, and the names of the deputy returning officers.

At the annual meeting of the London branch of the National Education League on Wednesday, it was resolved to continue the operation of the branch, with a view to assist the central executive in carry ing out their programme, viz. :- To assist in putting the Education Act in operation, so as to secure as far as possible the establishment of unsectarian, com-pulsory, and free schools; to promote amendments in the Act, by converting the permissive into obligatory clauses, and securing the recognition of the principle of religious equality in rate-aided schools; to resist the measure of Parliamentary grants to sectarian schools; to watch the progress of educational legis-lation in reference to the Irish system; and to influence public and Parliamentary opinion in favour of the principles of the League, The report also recom-mended that the branch should co-operate with the various district committees in selecting the names of members for the Metropolitan School Board, and

of members for the Metropolitan School Board, and in promoting the election of the most suitable persons. To this proposition some objection was taken, but ultimately the report was adopted. Sir Charlos Dilke, M.P., Mr. Pennington, Mr. Shaen, Mr. Lucraft, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Lloyd Jones were appointed delegates to the general meeting at Birmingham, and after a brisk discussion it was resolved that their expenses should be paid.

A large and influentially-attended meeting was held in the Town Hall, Manchester, on Friday afternoon, under the presidency of the Bishop of Manchester, for the purpose of forming an Education Board for the diocese of Manchester. The Bishop said there was accommodation in the Church schools in the diocese for 145,000 children, and in Nonconformist and Roman Catholic schools for \$2,000 children. In five of the rural deancries there was accommodation in excess of what was required, but, accommodation in excess of what was required, but, per contra, in other districts accommodation was needed for 61,895 children. This called upon Churchneeded for 61,895 children. This called upon Churchmen to provide accommodation for 40,000 more children than it now did, which would require a special fund of from 25,000t. to 30,000t. to be raised, and an annual working income of 2,000t. to 3,000t. Addresses were delivered by Lord Egerton of Tatton; the Dean of Chester; Mr. Hugh Birley, M.P.; and Mr. Hick, M.P. The first resolution carried appointed a Board of Education with a provisional constitution; and a second resolution pledgevisional constitution; and a second resolution pledg-

ing the meeting to raise a special fund, as suggested by the bishop, to provide sufficient school accomodation. About 4,000%. was subscribed in the room.

A meeting was held at 18, New-street, Springgardens, on Friday afternoon, to take steps relative to the approaching election of a school board for London, under the Elementary Education Act. Viscount Sandon, M.P., was called to the chair, and amongst those present were a number of influential Church clergymen and laymen. Several resolutions were proposed, and, after being fully discussed, the following were agreed to:—The first resolution following were agreed to:—The first resolution, which was moved by Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., and seconded by Mr. Robert Hanbury, was to the effect—"That an association be formed, to be called the London Rateps yers' School Board Association." The second resolution, moved by the Rev. J. E. Kempe, and seconded by Mr. A. O. Charles, was to the effect—"That the object of the association be to assist in promoting the election on the school board for London of representatives desirous of making efficient provision for the educational wants of the metropolis, and favourable to religious teaching." The third resolution, moved by Mr. T. Chambers, Q.C., M.P., and seconded by the Rev. W. D. Maclagan, stated "That this association, while it avoids carefully any approach to dictation, is yet of opinion that no candidate adopting the principles of the association should be considered ineligible on the ground of his political opinion, religious denomination, or social position." The fourth resolution, proposed by Mr. F. S. Powell, and seconded by the Rev. Canon Cromwell, was to the effect—"That it is desirable committees should be formed in each borough to promote the election of candidates favourable to the principles of the association; and that all persons favourable to these principles, and residing in the several districts be earnestly requested to proceed at once to the constitution of electoral committee." The fifth resolution, moved by Mr. G. D. Laycock, and seconded by Mr. Charles R. Ford, provided "that an executive committee be formed to carry on the work of the association.

EXECUTION OF MARGARET WATERS.

Margaret Waters, the "baby-farmer," whose case has excited so much public attention, was executed yesterday morning at nine o'clock within the walls of Horsemonger-lane Prison. The culprit, it will be remembered, was convicted upon one out of six indictments for the wilful murder of an illegitimate child two months old, the allegation on the part of the prosecution being that she and her sister, who was tried with her and acquitted of the capital charge, had initiated a regular system of murder by professing to "adopt" newly-born children upon the payment of a small sum of money, their real object being to get rid of the children as speedily as possible.

The prisoner appears to have conducted herself remarkably well since her conviction. Although she has frequently stated that she had been guilty of deceit and fraud in reference to the children entrusted to her, she has down to the very last moment persisted in assorting that she never entertained the intention of destroying their lives. She was visited for the last time by her two brothers on Monday. Her brothers had previously had an interview with the Lord Chief had previously had an interview with the Lord Chief Baron, who tried the prisoner, and they informed his lordship that they could procure evidence to show that their sister had treated the child for whose murder she was convicted with kindness, and that she had also done all she could for the other children. His lordship said that evidence of this description would have been important if it had been produced at the trial, but it was not in his power to interfere at that time with the execution of the sentence. An application for delay had also, it appears tence. An application for delay had also, it appears, been previously made to the Secretary of State by the prisoner's brothers, but the answer they received on Saturday was that the case had been carefully considered, and the Government were unable to find any grounds for granting the application. Ever since she has been under sentence the prisoner appears to have taken very little sustenance, and it was frequently necessary to administer stimulants to her. The Rev. Mr. Jessop, the chaplain of the prison, was frequently called up in the night to visit her on account of the disturbed state of her mind.

On Monday night the prisoner requested to be

allowed to write a statement of her case, which she desired to be published after her death. She was engaged a considerable time in doing so. The statement was nearly the same as that which appears elsewhere.

The culprit slept very little on Monday night, and the Rev. Mr. Jessop was with her soon after seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, and remained with her till the last moment. She was engaged in prayer down to the time of Calcraft being introduced to her cell. She did not betray any emotion while being pinioned, and appeared to have recovered all the firmness that characterised her during the trial. A procession, consisting of Mr. C. Abbott, the under sheriff, the governor, and some of the gaol officials, was formed, and the culprit was brought through the residence of the matron, which adjoins the prison, to the place of execution. She walked with a firm step, and after the rope had been adjusted, she, in a step, and after the rope had been adjusted, she, in a calm and composed tone, uttered what was described by those who heard it as a beautiful extempore prayer. She then shook hands with the Rev. Mr. Jessop, with Calcraft, and one of the prison warders. She appeared to die almost instantaneously. Although the execution was private, a good many persons assembled outside the prison.

Crimes and Casualties.

There was an alarm of fire at the Surrey Theatre on Saturday evening. In the last scene of the new drama, Link by Link, sparks were seen to fall from the ceiling upon the stage, and the cartain was sud-denly let down. There was no cry of "fire," but a rush was immediately made from the stalls and other parts of the house, and a general panic seemed in-evitable. Two gentlemen who had been having some refreshments in one of the rooms off the box lobby, hearing that the theatre was on fire, smashed the window overhanging the street and jumped out. Cries of "Keep your seats!" "Nothing has happened!" "There is no danger!" came from the orchestra, stage-boxes, and stage without producing the desired effect, until the orchestra struck up a lively air, and the curtain was again drawn up. Mr. E. T. Smith, the lessee of the theatre, then came forward, and told the audience that a piece of gauze over the stage had caught fire; that it was thought advisable to drop the curtain while the fire was being extinguished; and that there had been really no dause whatever for alarm, as the fire was of the most trifling character. The remainder of the performance was then proceeded with free from further commo-

A collision, which was happily unattended with any serious consequences, took place on the Midland Railway near Kettering, on Saturday night. A luggage-train was crossing from the main line to a siding, in order to make way for the express train which leaves Leicester at ten minutes past six o'clock p.m., and arrives at St. Pancras at 8.35 without any stoppage on the way, when the express came up, ran right into the luggage-triin, cut it clean in two, and proceeded onward for some distance before it could be stopped. Many of the luggage-wagons were broken to pieces and others knocked off the line, but the express carriages are said to have been scarcely scratched, and none of the passengers were injured. The line was blocked for several hours.

Miterature.

GERALD MASSEY'S POEMS.

It is in some respects unfortunate for Mr. Massey that, where he is at his very best, his poems do not challenge criticism at all. We receive them; rest in them; and occasional lines dwell with us with a lingering tenderness that oftenest imposes reticence. Like some of Uhland's, they are charged with the Heimweh, the longing look-back or rather let us say the longing look-back or rather let us say the longing look-up, which supervenes on great and crushing experiences. Their sensuous beauty is one thing, their suggestion for the crushed soul is quite another thing, and it is impossible their whole beauty should be seen save through the latter; and then the human heart is scarce in a mood for speech, even to utter its gratitude for words of cheer and helping. What could be finer than some of the touches in the ballad of "Babe "Christabel" or the "Mother's Idol Broken"? One or two of the verses at the conclusion of each of these poems make up the lyric of "our "lost loves." Scarce elsewhere can we match these records of the honeyed pain of the stripped parents' heart—sweetened by the sense of something gained, undefined, unfathomable. Only in one other poem do we remember anything to be set beside these verses, in their own kind; and as this poem is not so well known as it should be, we are sure Mr. Massey will forgive us for quoting one or two passages:—

"God leads not, but gives to the end
As He loves to the end. If it seem
That He draws back a gift, comprehend
"Tis to add to it rather,—amend,
And finish it up to your dream.

Or keep,—as a mother will toys
Too costly, though given by herself,
Till the room shall be stiller from noise,
And the children more fit for such joys
Kept over their heads on the shelf.

So look up, friends! you who indeed,
Have possessed in your house a sweet piece
Of the heaven which men strive for, must need
Be more enruest than others are,—speed
Where they loiter, persist where they cease.

You know how one angel smiles there.

Then weep not. 'Tis easy for you
To be drawn by a single gold hair
Of that curl, from earth's storm and despair
To the safe place above us. Adieu."

Mr. Massey's genius is, above all, domestic. It is nestling, tender, and needs veins of home affection to work in. And then there is in him no touch of cynicism or bitterness to qualify or disturb his strain. His heart dwells at home; and, in its fulness of emotion, seeks familiar things to lean on; then it warbles or breaks out in floods of song. But he needs his own sort of theme. Even his early political poems, which first drew public attention to him, owed nearly all of their force to the manner in which every point was seized with relation to the home-life. And when he lacks a genuine domestic incident or touch to begin with, he almost uniformly tends to become over-sensuous. This is seen, for instance, in some of his war pieces in his earlier volume called "War-Waits," and is especially true of the "Death-Ride" and "Heroes," in which simplicity is too much wanting for them to become in any sense people's poems. But his heart thrills to all genuine enthusiasm and patriotic impulses; and one or two of these "War-Waits" are admirable for lofty

Now, coming to the present volume, our remarks very directly apply to it also. Here we have some exquisite love-lyrics and songs of home, the "Carmina Nuptialia" being exceedingly sweet and tender, and the phrasing here and there exceptionally choice and exquisite. But Mr. Massey, we think, has erred in placing the "Tale of Eternity" so prominently as he has done in the volume. The subject is weird and abnormal in the extreme; and the impression produced is much more that which we should expect from a prosaic record of such experiences than from a poem. The truth is, experiences like these are hardly a proper or allowable subject-matter for poetry; and the greatest genius, we suspect, would hardly succeed with them, unless through rigid adoption of dramatic expedients. Horror is not poetry. Even where Mr. Massey's sweet touches come in, they do more to weaken by contrast than to strengthen the total effect by relief. Poetry must deal with that which is common, which admits no questioning about itself and its evidence; and certainly, in this case, the mind is kept in a perpetual stir of questioning. Does Mr. Massey start with a basis of facts, of which he has certified himself, or is he weaving a spell of imagination, thus to take our credence captive in the

lure of his verse, even whilst he is himself only passing through various stages of doubt? This question of spiritualism and spirit revelations is, indeed, a matter that must belong to individual conviction. The Spiritualists themselves are coming to admit that it is a thing of temperament—that medium-power itself waxes helpless in the presence of certain associations of mind and character. This fact itself is enough to stamp such topics with an adverse verdict from the Muse. Mr. Massey's overture is nothing more than the discussion of the possibility of spirit-revelations. Take this passage as specimen:—

"And now we come to think, may we not hold, Ghost-hands in ours, that turn them icy cold? A ghostly presence whitens in the cheek, And makes the blood run water—wan and weak The swooning life from out us faintly fleets, And turns to drops at the chill touch it meets. The walls of flesh are waxing all too thin To keep the world of spirits from crowding in. We wrap the clothes about us; but still bare In soul, we feel a wave of chillier air, Like that which brings the dawn, but that's a breath Of sweet new life; this hath an odour of death! The spirit spiracles all open wide, And life seems drowning in the flooding tide; We cannot cry, the unseen world doth strive To seal the mouth and bury the soul alive. I must believe in Ghosts, lying awake With them o'nights, when flesh will pimple and quake, And lustily one pulls the bell of prayer From this thick snow of spirits to clear the air."

Our objection to this is that it brings the matter too near the intellect, which itself shrinks and shudders from it. Even admit the ides, for purposes of poetry it is needful that it take on something of remoteness, through the plsy of common emotion. How skilfully Mr. Tennyson, in these lines from "In Memoriam," do intellectualises the idea, if we may speak so, and yet embodies it in more impressive and powerful form:—

"How pure at heart, and sound in head,
With what divine affections bold,
Should be the man, who fain would hold
An hour's communion with the dead.

In vain shalt thou, or any, call
The spirits from their golden day,
Except like them thou too can'st say
My spirit is at peace with all.

They haunt the silence of the breast, Imaginations calm and fair; The memory, like a cloudless air, The conscience as a sea at rest.

But when the heart is full of din,
And doubt beside the portal waits;
They can but listen at the gates,
And hear the household jar within."

But Mr. Massey proceeds as circumstantially as though he were making a record of facts.

"One night as I lay musing on my bed,
The veil was rent that shows the dead not dead,
Upon a picture I had fixed mine eyes,
Till slowly it began to magnetise."

Then a ghost appears, who gives his narrative of horrors, from which we deem it better not to make extracts of any length. Here and there Mr. Massey is exceedingly felicitous and powerful in the words he puts into the mouth of the ghost. Take, for example, the following description of storm:—

"I watched the anguisht clouds go hurrying by,
Rackt with the rending spirit of prophecy;
Like Pythonesses in the pangs, they tost
And writhed in shadowy semblance of the Lost:
They met, they darted death, they reared, they roared.
And down the torrent of the tempest poured!
Through heaven's windows the blue lightnings gleamed
And like a fractured pane the sky was seamed;
Hailstones made winter on the whitened ground,
And for two hours the thunder war raged round,
And then I heard the Thrush begin again,
With his more liquid warble after rain.

Many such researces might be cited; but we

Many such passages might be cited; but we turn to the other poems. The "In Memoriam" for Earl Brownlow is sweet and very stately in its movement. These lines much pleased us:—

"So, when the word came that our friend was dead,
We bowed beneath the burden of our loss,
And could have grovelled straightway, prone in dust;
But looking on the happy death he died,
And thinking of the holy life he lived,
And knowing he was one of those that soon
Attain their starry stature, and are crown'd,
We could not linger in the dust to weep,
But were upborne from earth as if on wings;
A sunbeam in the soul dried up the tears,
In which the sorrow trembled to be gone;
For his dear sake we could afford to smile.

Why should we weep when 'tis so well with him? Our loss even cannot measure his great gain! Why should we weep when death is but a mask Thro' which we know the face of Life beyond? Grief did but bow us at his grave to show Far more of Heaven in the landscape round!

For such a vestal soul as his—so pure,
So crystal clear, so filled with light, we lookt
As at some window of the other world,
And almost saw the angel smiling through—
'Twas but a step from out our muddy street
Of Earth, on to the pavement all of pearl!'
Mr. Massey names one of his brevities a
"Home Song," but a large number of them are

really that; this, however, has pre-eminently the gay, yet tender, rattle and dance:—

"The Spirit of Gladness floating
Goes up in a sound of song:
Robin sings in the rich eve-lights
The Throstle all day long:
The lark in his heaven that soars above
Each morn with a distant dome;
All sweet! but sweeter the voice we love.
Come Home, my Lady, come Home!

Your apple-blossoms are fragrant
Beyond the breath of the South;
Every bud, for an airy kiss,
Is lifting a rosy wee mouth.
A greener glory hour by hour
And a peep of ruddier bloom,
But the leafy world watcheth its human flower
Dear my Lady come Home!

Our thoughts are as the violets
Around the Ash-tree root,
That breathe the earliest hints of Spring
At their lofty lady's foot,
And wonder why she still delays—
When the sea of life is a-foam
With flowers—to crown her in these glad days,
Come Home, my Lady, come Home!

Come! feel the deepening dearness
About the grand old place.
Come! let us see the cordial smile
Once more in our Lady's face
Winter was dreary: of waiting we weary
Best of all jay-bringers, come!

Winter was dreary: of waiting we weary:

Best of all joy-bringers, come!

Spread bonny white sails! blow balmy spring-gales!

And bring my Lady Home!"

Vearly all the short lyrical pieces are equal

Nearly all the short lyrical pieces are equal to the best of those in former volumes, and some are even superior; and these, we think, should suffice to extend Mr. Massey's reputation.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Little Women. Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. By LOUISA M. Allcort (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston), though an established favourite in America, is only now introduced to English readers by Messrs. Low and Co. It scarcely stands in need of a better recommendation than it possesses in the fact that its author has, since its first publication, produced "An Old Fashioned Girl" which achieved an immediate popularity in America, and got an English dress before its predecessor. These "Four Little Women," though late, are doubly welcome. We will not tell their story; they are well able to take care of themselves, and may be safely trusted to attract the companionship of other little women in this country. It has been a real source of delight to us to follow out the threads of these obscure but not insignificant lives. from the first childish gossip round the fireside of their happy home to the period at which they are successively disposed of by events, generally matrimonial.

Poems. By FREDERIC W. H. MYERS. (London:

Macmillan and Co.) The first poem in this volume is "St. Paul," reviewed by us some time ago, the second is "St. John the Baptist," and the remainder of the volume is filled with minor poems of various lengths. We do not think Mr. Myers has been even so successful in rendering the thought and passion of the Baptist as he was those of St. Paul. The fault we noticed in our review of the earlier poem is, if not more conspicuous, at least more fatal to the success of the second delineation. Mr. Myers is artificial in his conceptions, and his style is almost wholly mannerism. There is fervour in his verse, but we scarcely can separate between the healthy fervour of the poet and the feverishness of one who affects the modes of the cloister. Many of the images in this volume we cannot but admire, some of the passages are exquisitely musical; but there is an unreality, an air of forced feeling, and a trick of versifying about the whole which soon wearies the reader. Another modern vice is evident in these poems. Mr. Myers apparently does not care to distinguish between healthful and unhealthful feeling, if only the feeling be at once sad and intense. The following poem is an evidence of this; it is impossible to any thoroughly sound soul to compare a martyr's wounds with a sinner's

"Say is it true that if a soul up-springing
Once—for I know not nor it matters when—
Plainly hath heard the scraphs at their singing,
Clearly hath looked upon the Light of men,—

Say ye that afterward the fast and faster
Downward she travel, daily she decline,
Marred with defeat and broken with disaster,
Filled with the earth, forgetting the divine,
Yet shall the fiend not utterly under her,
Connect constrain her living in the grane.

Yet shall the fiend not utterly undo her, Cannot constrain her living in the grave,— God at the last shall know her as he knew her, Come as he came and as he sought shall save?

Yes! tho' the darts exasperate and bloody
Fell on the fair side of Sebastian faint,
Think ye the round wounds and the gashes ruddy
Sear in God's house the beauty of the saint?
Who were the Lord to mock him and imprison,

Cheat with an endless agony of breath, Bid him arise, and in his body risen Carry the trouble and the pains of death?

No! if he wake it is a king's awaking,
Fresh from the night and fairer for his rest:
Aye, and the soul, to resurrection breaking,
Springs in her flower and blossoms at her best.

Then tho' the man with struggle and with straining
Find not the faith and passion of the boy,
Yet shall he march upon the years remaining
Clad with a bitter and courageous joy;—

^{*} A Tale of Eternity, and Other Poems. By GERALD MASSEY. (Strahan and Co.)

Morn after morn renewing the endeavour,
Eve after eve regretting: it is vain!
Ab, the sea-snake! a demi-god for ever,
Smote it and slew it and it was not slain.

So while the great deep round the king and under Rose to the blowing, bellowed to the roar, Fierce in the storm and fearless in the thunder, Sought he a sweet and visionary shore.

Once, as they say, in seeking it he found it,
Found in the sunset, lost it in the foam,
Westward and north and past it and around it
Fared in the homeless passion of a home.

Then with great heart amid the sailors craven, Spake he: 'I leave you, be at rest again; Sail without me for harbour and for haven, Sail happy-hearted for your loves and Spain.'

So to the waves he leapt, but ere his leaping, Cried, 'Yet a hope! there is a hope for me; Soon shall my corse upon that isle be sleeping, Washed by the welter of the friendly sea.'"

Considerations on the Revision of the English Version of the New Testament. By C. J. ELLICOTT, D.D., Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. (London: Longmans, Green, Reader, and Dyer.) Public attention has been for the last few weeks so fully engrossed by the war that we have been in danger of forgetting that the work of Biblical revision is actually proceeding. The part Bishop Ellicott is taking in this work, and his we'learned reputation as a careful scholar, make this book specially noteworthy. It is worthy of its author; written in haste, in hours snatched from varied Episcopal duty, it is manifestly such a book as only one perfectly familiar with his subject could have written. It gives a brief history of the original text and the English translation of the authorised version, and lays down principles which should guide revisers and fix limits within which alterations should be made. There are also some specimens of a revised version; the Sermon on the Mount, and part of the Epistle to the Romans. We do not purpose any criticisms of the bishop's examples; they evince sagacity and insight. We heartily recommend the volume as a weighty plea for revision. It is like the bishop himself, conservative but candid, occasionally evincing theological bias, but always worthy of respectful attention.

Advanced Text-Book of Zoology for the Use of Schools.
By H. ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D., &c. (Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons.) This is an excellent treatise for its purpose. Dr. Nicholson's style is singularly intelligent; he conveys much information in a small space, and is especially clear in his explanations of the various zcological classes and their characteristics. The introductory chapter is a model of lucid writing on a difficult point, the distinctions between plants and animals. Dr. Nicholson has abandoned the classification of Cuvier; he adopts the classification of animals into six instead of five sub-kingdoms-Protozoa, Colenterata, Annuloida, Annulosa, Mollusca, and Vertebrata. In the arrangement of his matter, he begins with the lowest forms of life, the Gregarinidae, Rhizopoda, and Infusoria, and goes upwards till he ends with man. This seems to us a much more sensible order of study than the contrary; so necessary indeed do we deem it to an intelligent mastery of the facts and principles of zoology, that we wonder it is not adopted by all writers on natural history. A good deal more than half the book is devoted to the Invertebrate animels; Dr. Nicholson assigning as his reason for this his belief that "any practical zoological work likely to be under-"taken by young students will certainly be in connection "with these rather than with the Vertebrate animals." There is another advantage; young students will gain from the beginning a clearer notion of the numerical proportions of these two great divisions of the animal kingdom. We have only to add that Christian teachers and the adherents of a spiritual philosophy may safely put this book into the hands of their pupils. There is nothing theological in the book, but on the

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other hand, there is nothing anti-theological.

Fraser has a remarkable article by Mr. Leslie Stephen, in which Mr. Matthew Arnold is criticised with a oughness and a caustic severity which he will not much relish, unless, indeed, he is in that exalted region of philosophic contemplation where these rude blasts cannot reach or disturb him. The review of Mr. Stephen is likely to be all the less palatable because it cannot be ascribed to any sympathy with Puritan theology, but is the utterance of a man whose view of Evangelical Protestantism does not appear to be very different from that of Mr. Arnold himself. To do justice to the article, we should have to quote it almost entire, for the reasoning is so close and cogent that we should fail to give any adequate idea of its force by a mere statement of it in outline. Suffice it to say, that the article contains not only a scathing exposure of the false principles which underlie Mr. Arnold's attack on Nonconformists, but also a vivid description of the evils in the present state of the Anglican Church, a refutation of the Broad Church arguments, and a powerful plea for disestablishment. The Editor's paper on "Home "Politics." we regret. He is carried away by his earnest desire for a State-aid system of emigration, and does injustice to Mr. Gladstone and his Ministry because of their unwillingness to adopt what he and the party he represents believe would be the grand remedy

Minister has played too noble a part for him to be suspected of being the organ of a Plutocracy. The paragraph on Mr. Bright, which endorses the Tory calumny that he "vindicated the monstrous immorality of the adulteration of food," is as unjust, as under Mr. Bright's circumstances, it is unworthy of a fair opponent. Mr. Francis Newman's, on the "Internal Relations of "Europe," in which he shows the hollowness of the talk about the balance of power, and the weakness of the fears of German power, is as timely as it is able. Articles on "Our Rule in India," the "War," "A March "with the Belligerents," and "A Novel Way of Study-"ing the Stars," are among the attractions of a number of unusual excellence.

In Blackwood, "Cornelius O'Dowd" discourses in his usual lively style on the war, treating the discussions on the "terms of peace," with which our newspapers abound, with great good sense. There is nothing very new in his arguments, but he puts with great force the weakness and one-sidedness of many of the pleas now addressed to Prussia in opposition to any annexation of territory. A paper on the "European Hurricane" gives not only a very clever and complete review of the military operations, but its careful explanation of the leading features of a siege is well done, and extremely instructive. An interesting paper on "Strangers in the House" gives an historic sketch of the way in which reporters and strangers have acquired their present position. A paper on "Canada" is one of Blackwood's characteristic attacks on the Government, especially in reference to their colonial policy.

Saint Pauls unites as successfully as any of our magazines the more solid and the lighter elements. The fiction is of the highest class—indeed, it is difficult to see how it is possible to give, month by month, a number of Mr. Trollope's "Ralph the Heir," in addition to the ordinary contents of the magazine. The place of Mr. Oliphant's capital story is now filled by a new tale, which is rich in promise, "The Fisherman of "Auge." But the magazine has other attractions for a different circle of readers. Here we have a charming sketch of La Fontaine, the first part of a record of travel in Normandy by Mr. Craik, and papers of solid merit on the "Officering the British Army," and on the "Workhouse."

The Cornhill maintains a very equal race with Saint Pauls, which it strongly resembles. In both we are glad to find that which used contemptuously to be called "padding" becoming a more prominent feature in the magazine. There is not less careful catering for those to whom the reading of a magazine is a mere pastime, but those who desire to have in it instruction will find more to their taste. The Cornhill has always had a character for its geographical articles, and that on the "Western Pyrenees" in this number is fully equal to the average, and the "Log of the Nautilus and Isis Canoes" is a well-written paper full of life and interest. "Some Recollections of a Reader" are full of suggestion. There are two new serial storics which seem likely well to sustain the reputation of the magazine.

The Gentleman's Magazine champions the Napoleons with a thoroughness we should hardly have expected to find in an English magazine. We have as little sympathy as the writer with those who kick the "Sick Lion," after having shown him all sorts of attention in the time of his power, but we should be sorry to think that the Emperor's character and policy are approved by English gentlemen. The best papers in the number are the sketches of Macaulay and Mark Lemon.

CHINA AND HER MISSIONARIES.

The following is the first half of a letter—the whole being too long for insertion in one number—written by the Rev. Griffith John, the missionary in China to whom we have already been indebted for several valuable communications on the same subject. Although this letter has no reference to recent and disquieting events in that empire, it affords many vivid illustrations of the religious and social characteristics of the Chinese, which will help the reader more intelligently to interpret what is now taking place in China, besides assisting to remove many unfounded prejudices relative to missionary work there:—

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,-A question of great importance presents itself now for consideration-Are missions inimical to the interests of commerce in China? On this point Sir Rutherford Alcock has expressed himself repeatedly and emphatically. He more than doubts "the wisdom of present efforts for the establishment of Protestant missions beyond the circle of the ports." He has no doubt whatever as to the risk incurred and the evil consequences to be anticipated from persistent efforts in this direction, upon all the material interests and progressive improvements in our relations with the rulers and people of China. He asserts that "commerce, its extension and free development, was the first object of the Treaty of Tientsio," and maintains that it is futile to graft on to our treaty of commerce " a proselytising agency for the conversion of the nation to Christianity."

does injustice to Mr. Gladstone and his Ministry because of their unwillingness to adopt what he and the party he represents believe would be the grand remedy for the difficulties of the time. Surely, the Prime with England, and that the promotion of her material

interests is what she seeks in the East. Even the Chinese are not ignorant of this fact. Ting, the Governor of Kiang-Su, in a secret memorial presented to the Throne some time ago, states very clearly the respective aims of the Treaty Powers. He does not fail to observe that the propagation of Christianity is a matter to which the English Government attaches no importance. The sole object of Russia, he says, is territorial acquisition; that of France, propagandism; and that of England, commerce. America, he adds, needs not be taken into consideration, as she generally follows suit with England. He urges that China's fixed purpose must be to disburden herself of them all; but suggests that she must, in order to accomplish this, take their respective aims into consideration, and shape her course accordingly. The memorial evinces a clea insight into the national characteristics of the four great Powers with which China has to deal; and it shows us plainly that the Chinese authorities know well that a short work might be made of the missionary question, if England alone had to be consulted.

Moreover, none of us are ignorant of the fact that the missionaries are really indebted to France and America for the insertion of the "Tolcration Clause" in the English treaty. Lord Elgin, I believe, has never contemplated the grafting of a procelytising agency on his treaty of commerce. It was the action of the other plenipotentiaries that determined his course in this matter.

It is evident, too, that we are indebted to France rincipally for any good which has been reaped by the Protestant missionaries from this clause in the English treaty. I feel thankful for the stipulation; for had our treaty contained no reference to Christianity, it would have been vain to appeal to the "favoured-nation Nevertheless, it is a fact, that the privilege clause." of iuland residence would not have been enjoyed by the Protestant missionaries, were it not for the attitude assumed by France towards the religious question. The insertion of the Toleration Clause in the French treaty meant something definite and positive. The Church of Rome was prepared to act upon it; and France was determined to sustain her in her every attempt to turn it to the best advantage. The conquence is that the priests have domiciled themselves in not a few of the inland cities of every province; and that Roman Catholicism is rearing its head proudly throughout the land. This being the case, the Chinese Government cannot very well tell the Protestant missionary of England or America, that he must not reside in the interior; but if this were not the case, the Toleration Clause in both the English and American treaties would have been a dead letter-not worth the paper on which it is written.

It is reported that, when Sir R. Alcock left Pekin, Prince Kung expressed a wish that "be would carry with him to England the opium and the missionaries. The story is, I have no doubt, quite true. Knowing that the missionary question does not weigh a feather with the British Government, that the sentiments of the Euglish Minister are most unfriendly to the missionary enterprise, and that the English treaty is, in realit simply a bread-and-butter treaty, it was quite natural for the Prince to speak of the missionaries in the way he did It is not at all probable that he will express himself in exactly the same terms to the French Minister on his departure from the cepital. It would, doubtless, have been gratifying to Prince Kung to see all the missionaries taking their leave of China slong with Sir R. Alcock; but it would have pleased His Highness still more to see Her Majesty's Minister carrying with him the Legations from Pekin, and the merchants from the ports. But what would have been the use of suggesting such a thing to the guardian of our "material interests" in this great country? Let no one imagine that the Chinese authorities look upon the Protestant missionaries, as compared with other foreigners, in the same light in which they look upon opium, as compared with other merchandise. The reverse of this, as I have already shown, is doubtless the fact. It may be said of the Chinese generally, that they are indebted to the missionaries principally for any right views and friendly feelings they may possess and cherish with regard to foreigners. Of the people, this may be said emphatically.

Such is the history, the nature, and the value of the "Toleration Clause" in the English Treaty of Tientsin. Whilst it may be freely admitted that it is highly satisfactory as a stipulation, if rightly interpreted, it is perfectly certain that we are indebted to other Powers for its origination and efficaciousness. Its whole history evinces a minimum of interest on the part of England in missions.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, in his "Supplementary Convention," has simply ignored the existence of the missionary enterprise. It is well that he should have adopted this course, as he is evidently not the man to deal with this vital question. From utter want of sympathy and insight, he would have made matters worse than they were before, and retarded the progress of the noblest and most beneficent work that England is doing in China. Neither the churches nor the missionaries owe to him the smallest tribute of gratitude; and evangelised China, in the ages to come, will not assign to him a place among our benefactors. So much on the nature of the engrafting spoken of by Sir R. Alcock.

In of position to H.M. Minister at Peking, I maintain

that the upright merchant has nothing to fear from the earnest missionary; and that missionary operations, as carried on by the agents of the Protestant Churches in China, tend to speed, rather than retard, any progressive improvements in our commercial relations with the rulers and people. In a previous communication, I have described the missionary's position in this land. have endeavoured to show in what light he is regarded by the authorities, the scholars, and the people. If there is any truth in those representations, it is evident that the British Government will consult the highest interests of both England and China by encouraging to the utmost the multiplication of missionaries, and the extension of missionary operations throughout the length and breadth of this vast empire. There is much in the enterprise to commend the respect, win the favour, and conciliate the affections of all classes; and, so far, it must tend to conserve peaceful relations, and promote commercial and all other true interests. The missionary work, when wisely, earnestly, and lovingly conducted, appeals powerfully to some of the best feelings of our common nature. Its unselfishness, unworldliness, and high aim are conspicuous to all, and felt and appreciated by some. The missionary speaks the language of the people, mixes with them freely, receives them into his house, treats them in every respect as friends and brethren, and thus wins their confidence, and establishes mutual intimacy. He educates their children in his schools, he heals their sick in his hospitals, he ministers to the wants of their poor according to his ability, he teaches them the great principles of religion and morality in his chapels, and he attempts to exemplify in his own life the spotless life of Christ in order to give them an example which they may safely follow. The merchant is neither able nor desirous to hold this relation to the native. The foreign official is soldom seen mingling with the people, though their tougue may not be altogether unknown to him. The missionary alone is able and willing to undertake this laborious work. Let me ask-Is it an important work? Is there nothing noble about it? Is it urworthy of a great Christian people? Need England be ashamed of it? Would Christian England be fairly represented in China without it? Would the English nation rest satisfied with being regarded by the Chinese as a nation of shopkeepers, wholly devoted to pelf, and utterly regardless of the claims of religion and philosophy? Would the interests of either England or China be promoted by the eviction of the very men who represent the intellectual, moral, and spiritual life of Christian Europe in these pagan empires? And, finally, is it not a graceful act on the part of a Christian Government, to exert every moral influence in its power on these Pagan rulers, in order to insure to the Christian missionary complete protection whilst peaceably pursuing his calling ?

What is it that the English missionaries ask for? They do not ask for the patronage of any Government. They do not ask the English Government to subsidise missionary societies, or to exercise a particle of influence to induce a single Chinese to become a Christian. They do not wish to see the English Minister assuming the position of a Director-General of British Missions in China, or themselves placed under a sort of bureaucratic Government. They simply desire that their rights in China as British subjects may be secured to them, and that "those who teach and those who profess the Christian religion" may be exempted from persecution. The passport system secures to Her Majesty's Government all the desirable control over the movements of the missionaries; for the Consuls may, when applied to for passports, acquaint themselves with the character and proceedings of the missionaries, and act accordingly. A man who cannot be trusted in the interior may easily

be kept out by this arrangement.

But will not the domiciliation of missionaries in the interior give rise to endless complications? On this point, my opinion is that difficulties will probably spring up from time to time, but that they need not be serious or numerous. The Government and scholars of China are as strongly opposed as ever to intercourse with the hated foreigner, and are likely to raise every obstacle in their power to its extension. The real impediments, however, will not be of a religious character; and the British authorities at Pekin and the Ports will not find it a very laborious task to meet and overcome them. The complications will be similar in their nature to those that will arise on the first attempt the merchants will make to extend their operations into the interior. In point of dimensions, they are likely to be less formidable. The history of the last ten years shows that there need be but little apprehension of danger attending the missionary's path in the interior on purely religious grounds. During this period the inland missionaries have enjoyed as much domestic peace and freedom of action as might reasonably have been expected. Religion, as I have already shown, had nothing to do with the riots of Yang-Chow, Formosa, and other places. It would be the greatest mistake possible to ascribe them to religious intolerance or frenzy.

The Chinese seem hardly capable of religious fanaticism. Creeds of all kinds are regarded by them with the most insensate indifference. The priests of Buddh and Tau, with few exceptions, know absolutely nothing of Buddhism and Tauism. Everything beyond Confucianism is terra incognita to most of the literati. The people are profoundly ignorant of the history,

nature, and character of the divinities they worship. The Chinese are Buddhists, Tauists, Confucianists, and anything else you please. These three systems live together in perfect harmony in China, though they are mutually as conflictive and repugnant as Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, and Positivism. They are often spoken of as "three religions forming one religion," and as "three religions having one source." Such is the latitudinarianism of the Chinese, that they would neither see nor feel anything incongruous in being members of every Church and believers in every creed upon earth. They would have no objections, on religious grounds, to the admitting of Jesus into their pantheon, if He would quietly take a seat among the other gods, and rest satisfied with being regarded as one of the many. What they do not understand about Christianity is its exclusive spirit; and it puzzles them greatly to account for the supreme importance we attach to it.

The religion of the Chinese is hardly worthy of the Their language contains no generic term for religion. Before the introduction of Buddhism, they had no distinct sacerdotal class. Though Buddhism and Tauism have both been patronised from time to time by the Emperors of China, there never has been a hierarchy supported by the State, or a hereditary religious caste, or an influential priesthood. There have been individual priests who have worked their way to imperial favour, and risen to power; but the priests, as a class, have always been a despised body, and quite powerless for either good or evil. The Emperor himself is the pontifex maximus of the State religion, and those who assist him in the Great Sacrifice are not priests. but members of the Imperial Clan and the Board of Rites. The whole empire contains but one altar to Shang-ti, the Supreme Ruler. The high priest of this altar is the Emperor. In the service performed here he alone worships; no subject, however exalted in rank, is permitted to join in the adoration. The common people may worship any fetish they please; but they are forbidden, under heavy penalties, to worship Shang-ti, and other objects of imperial obeisance. Certain ex-officio religious duties devolve upon all the magistrates. They are required to repair to certain temples periodically, and pay their respects to certain divinities. The Emperor himself, however, stands first and foremost among the gods, before whom they perform the "three kneelings and nine bows." State religion, from beginning to end. is a mere State pageantry-a dead, empty form. It does, as Dr. Morrison has remarked, not consist of doctrines which are to be taught, learned, and believed, but of rites and ceremonies; it is entirely a bodily service, and its ritual is contained in the statutes and code of the empire. It is a thing that has been handed down from age to age, and observed without feeling, reason, or conscience on the part of the worshipper. It would be absurd to speak of it as the religion of the Chinese. The people know very little about it, and have nothing to do with it.

The sect of the Learned, or Confucianists, can hardly be called a religious sect. Strictly speaking, they have no creeds, no priests, no temples, no gods. They worship Confucius, but not as a divinity. They adore him as the perfect man—the embodiment of all that is wise, sacred, and good—"the teacher and example for ten thousand ages!" but they do not offer petitions to him, or expect to receive anything at his hands. His temple is funereal, the abode of the dead, and is not to be regarded in the same light as the Buddhist temple or monastery, which is intended for the living. An image of the sage is rarely to be seen; and in no case is it worshipped as an idol, but simply set up as a statue for ornament. At the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, the mandarins repair to his temple to sacrifice. In front of his tablet, "the place of the spirit," offerings are presented, songs of praise are sung, and prostrations are made. The whole is a mere State ceremony. The worshippers are magistrates; the masters of ceremony are not members of the sacerdotal class, but laymen; the people are mere spectators; and even the scholars have no share in the service. The literati do not worship Confucius in his temple except when they obtain their degree. They have his tablet in their schoolrooms, and may have it in their homes. Before this they make their prostrations, and burn incense and

candles, but they never sacrifice.

In the ancient classics there are not a few passages which speak of the Supreme; but, as I have already observed, the people are not permitted to worship him. Besides, the sect of the Learned deny his personality and intelligence, and identify him with nature's universal law. Their philosophy recognises only Nature, self-produced, active, willless, and unintelligent. Confucianism is essentially a system of morals, applicable only to this life, and confined to the duties which arise from the human relations. It treats of the relations of prince and subject, father and son, and husband and wife; and of the five virtues of benevolence, uprightness, politeness, wisdom, and faithfulness, whose obligation is constant and universal. It contemplates the heads of the State or family as the highest object of reverence and homage. It attempts no reply to questions regarding man's spiritual relations, origin, and destiny. The sage himself disliked to touch upon religious subjects. He clung to the physical, the temporal, the sensuous, and the practical with a tenacious grasp. The invisible, the spiritual, the eternal, and the specula-

tive, had no charm for him. He seemed to shrink from such themes with instinctive aversion. A disciple asked what constituted wisdom, and Confucius said, To give oneself earnestly to the duties of men, and while respecting spiritual beings, to keep aloof from them, may be called wisdom." Another asked about serving the spirits of the dead, and the master said, "While you are not able to serve men, how can you serve spirits?" The disciple added, "I venture to ask about death." Confucius replied, "While you do not know life, how can you know about death?" this remarkable man persistently resist every attempt to draw him into the domain of the immaterial and eternal; and this stolid indifference to everything beyond the present and the physical, has been fully inherited by his followers, and is a distinguishing feature of the sect of the Learned. Those among them who are not altogether devoid of the religious instinct, or who are in any way influenced by superstition, may worship at Buddhist or Tauist shrines. Confucianism presents no being to whom single men may offer supplications. It knows nothing of a prayer-hearing God. Even the God of Literature, whose favour is sought by some of the literati, is a Tauist divinity. Such is Confucianism; it would be difficult to conceive of anything more pitiable in a religious point of view.

As to the people, they are willing to bow the knee and burn incense to everybody or, everything that promises to protect them from danger, or afford to them relief. Fear, custom, and self-interest are the principle elements in their religion. A sense of sin, deep contrition, humble gratitude, spiritual communion, reverence, and love—these, and such elements as these, do not enter into it. They fear that there may be superior powers, and that they exercise some control over their affairs. They fear that, if they do not attend to certain prescribed observances, calamities will befall them. They fear that there may be a connection between certain blessings and certain rites and ceremonies. They think it better to be on the safe side, and follow custom. In his religious observances the Chinaman is quite himself. He bargains with his god just as he does with his neighbour. His religion is a purely commercial transaction, in which he thinks he has a right to cheat to the utmost extent of his ability. He spends so much on incense, candles, and mockmoney, and he expects to receive so much in return. If the god fails to perform his part of the contract, the Chinaman is very wroth, often vents his rage in unmeasured terms of abuse, and if he be a man of power and influence, threatens revenge. It is not so easy to determine whether the Chinese believe in their gods or not. Some of their actions would lead one to suppose they did; but there are others that indicate the very reverse. They will sometimes say themselves that they "half believe and half doubt," and that they only know for certainty that "heaven and earth are great, and father and mother honourable." In the Sacred Edict the people are told by the Emperor himself that their highest interests lie in the present; that the human relationships are the only ones worthy of their regard; that all religions, including the Roman Catholic, are false; that he supreme God of the Tauists is enjoying himself in the Celestial Hall, and is not likely to allow his repose to be disturbed by their religious performances; and that the two divinities who deserve their homage and reverence are the father and mother at home. The missionary is never listened to with greater attention and delight than when he exposes the vanity of the gods and the folly of idolatry. His audience will often laugh right out and express their assent in a most demonstrative manner. Often is the conviction forced upon my mind that the Chinese, notwithstanding the number of their temples and divinities, are a godless people; that they worship without cherishing a particle of respect or reverence for the objects of their adoration; and that it is custom and fear only that secure for the idols the attentions which they receive.

(To be continued.)

Miscellaneous

THE WORKMEN'S CIRCULATING ETBRARY .- The Workmen's Club and Institute Union is making strenuous efforts to increase the resources of this library, so as to meet the demand for their books which comes from workmen's clubs in all parts of England. They now supply 110 clubs, having about 16,000 members, and it is expected that within another twelve months they will receive applications from as many more.

Mr. ALDERMAN BIRKIN, a magistrate of the town and county of Nottingham, and one of the directors of the Midland Railway, died on Saturday at his residence, Aspley Hall, near Nottingham. On Friday Mr. Birkin and his wife drove from his residence to his estate at Toton, where soon after their arrival they were both found lying in the grounds in a state of insensibility. Mr. Birkin had had an attack of apoplexy, and his wife had fainted. The gentleman was removed home as quickly as possible, where he died on Saturday night. Mr. Birkin, who was a thoroughly self-made man, was at the time of his death one of the most extensive manufacturers of lace in the district. He had four times filled the office of mayor to the borough.

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS ACT IN DEVONSHIRE.—A county meeting was held at Exeter on Friday afternoon to consider the application of the

Endowed Schools Act to Devonshire. The Earl of Devon, the Earl of Portsmouth, the Bishop of Exeter, Sir John Duckworth, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Sir John Coleridge took part in the proceedings. Resolutions were adopted affirming the advisability of taking into consideration the general requirements of the county when considering the employment of the educational endowments available in ment of the educational endowments available in the county; and that the education organisation of the county, as far as endowed schools were con-cerned, should consist of different grades so connected together by exhibitions that the progress of a deserving scholar from a school of a lower grade to one of a higher might be provided for and facilitated. Sir Stafford Northcote said that in dealing with the educational and owners of the dealing with the educational endowments of the county, a substantial portion should be applied for the purpose of female jeducation. An open and generous policy was advocated in dealing with endowments, but a hope was expressed that locali-sation would not be lost sight of, Sir John Cole-ridge said the endowments of Devon ought to be confined to Devonshire schools, but not to Devonshire men. Mr. Fitch, assistant commissioner, said there was no intention to sweep all endowments into a common fund, and distribute them equally throughout the country.

Loss of the "Captain."—The court-martial on the Captain gave their judgment on Saturday. The Court found that the vessel capsized on the morning of September the 7th by the pressure of her sail, assisted by the heave of the sea, and that the sail carried at the time of her loss, regard being had to the force of the wind and the state of the sea, was insufficient to have endangered a ship endued with proper stability. The Court said no blame was attributable to Mr. May and the survivors, who were fully acquited, The Court recorded that the Captain was built in deference to while opinion in Parliament public opinion in Parliament and through other channels, and in opposition to the views of the Controller and his department, and that the evidence tended to show that they generally disproved of her construction. It further appeared that before the Captain was received from the contractors a grave departure from her original design had been committed, whereby her draught of water had been increased by two feet, and her freeboard was diminished to a corresponding extent, and that her stability proved to be dangerously small, accompanied with an area of sail under these circumstances excessive. The Court deeply regretted that if these facts were duly known and appreciated they were not communicated to the officer in command of the ship, or that otherwise the ship was allowed to be employed in the service of the fleet before they had been sufficiently ascer-tained by calculation and experiments. The Court expressed themselves satisfied with the conduct of the survivors, adding that it reflected credit on themselves and the service to which they belonged. Judgment was given at 7.40 p.m.

BABY FARMING REVELATIONS .- A statement made by the convict Margaret Waters, which covered fifteen sides of foolscap, was read by Dr. Edmunds, at a discussion on baby-farming at the Dialectical Society's rooms on Wednesday. Dr. Edmunds said Waters had told him that at her husband's death in 1864, she was left with 3001. in her possession, and, having lost the greater part of her money in an attempt to carry on business as a collar-maker, she resorted to letting lodgings as a means of obtaining a livelihood. One of her first lodgers was a lady living under the protection of a City solicitor, and passing as his wife under an assumed name. Mrs. Waters did not know that she was a single woman, but believed she was really the gentleman's wife. The lady was confined in the house, and then left, but said she did not wish to take the child with her, and offered to pay Mrs. Waters for nursing it. Mrs. Waters consented, and that was the first child she in any way farmed. The same lady came again, was confined, and left another child, whom she also paid very well for. Being in difficulties, Mrs. Waters began to think that this would be a good means of adding to her income, and received several other ladies under similar circumstances, but she never advertised at this time. Meanwhile, her pecuniary difficulties increasing, she found kerself obliged to move from Addington-square, Camberwell, to Bournemouth-terrace, Peckham, where baby-farming as a system. She advertised for children, and she had answers from persons in all sta-tions. Among her clients, she said, were a Chancery barrister, a well-known gentleman in another profession, and a gentleman whose name was recently very much before the public in connection with another matter. She drifted along in this course, getting from bad to worse, and, as her mother strongly disapproved of her taking in children, she opened up a new line of business. She advertised for children to adopt, and generally received 10l. with one. She then went to one of the women who advertised in the Clerkenwell News for children to nurse, and arranged to put the baby out to nurse. Upon paying two weeks in advance she was hardly ever asked even for her address, and when she went away she never heard anything more of the child. She gained the difference between the 101. given her for adopting the child and the fortnight's payment for nursing it. She at length fell into great distress, and borrowed 281. from a money-lender on her furniture. He deducted 14l. of the 28l. for the "expenses," and made her pay 2l. 10s. a month until the whole 28l. was paid him. Whenever she was a few days behindhand in paying one of the instal-ments, he threatened to seize all her things, and he only desisted upon being paid 10s. by way of fine.

When the 281. was paid back in this way, she was so reduced she was obliged to get another loan from the money-lender on the same terms. At this time the children were as well attended to as she could manage it; a medical man was always called in when they fell sick; and when they died they were hyried properly, and and when they died they were buried properly, and she had the undertaker's receipts. Being unable to pay the money-lender his instalments, he threatened to strip her of everything under her bill of sale. She removed, and changed her name in order to conceal herself from him, and this she affirms was her sole motive for the change of name which so told against her. When she went to Brixton five children died, some from diarrhœa and wasting, and others from convulsions. She was very poor, and to save the cost of burial she wrapped the bodies in brown paper and took them out at night, and left them where they were found by people afterwards. Four other children she took, one at a time, into the streets, and when she saw little boys and girls at play she called one of them and said, "Oh, I am so tired. Here, hold my baby, and here is sixpence for you to go into the sweetstuff shop and get some-thing nice." While the child went into the shop she made off. The babies, she believes, were generally taken to the workhouse. Some of the persons who gave the children for adoption, she says, were evidently well off. The babies were very well dressed, and sometimes were given her within an hour after they were born, and before they were even dressed. dressed.

Glennings.

The Prussians have invested the capital of France

before they've got it.

Dr. Barter, who is said to have introduced the Turkish Bath into this country, died on Tuesday at

The Metropolitan Railway Company are to make reductions in their fares to the extent of one fourth, on the 1st of November.

The "Life of Lord Palmerston," by Sir H. Lytton Bulwer, M.P., will be published immediately by Mr.

Bentley. "Rusticus," in commenting on the present style of

female coffure, says: —"It must be a very poor soil that requires so much top-dressing."

Not less than 800,000 "postal cards" passed through the metropolitan offices on the 1st of

October. At a service held in Scotland on Sunday week, Signor Gavazzi expressed his confidence that in the

course of a fortuight he should be preaching the Gospel on the stairs of the Capitol at Rome.

Some statements made at the meeting of the Manchester Guardians on Thursday, show that fever is alarmingly on the increase, at least in the poorer

districts of the city. Madame Viardot-Garcia, whose fortune has been sacrificed by the war in France, of which country her husband is a native, is about to visit London to resume her professional career.

The Duke of Edinburgh has just sent to Southmpton a large assortment of the skins of ferocions buffaloes, bears, boars, leopards, and tigers, in illustration of the difficult and dangerous sports and pastimes of his leisure. They are to be stuffed.

NOTICE. - All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage-stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths

JAMESON.—Oct. 3, at Trowbridge, Wilts, after a few days' illness, Mabel Gerbrade, youngest daughter of George Henry and Eliza Jameson, aged three years and four

BANK OF ENGLAND. (From Wednesday's Gasette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Oct. 5.

INNUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued £36,545,265 Government Debt £11,015,100 Other Securities .. 3,984,900 Gold Com & Bullion 21,545,265

£36,545,345

Bills 443,350,991 £43,350,991

GEO. FORBES, Chief Cash ... Oct. 6, 1870

Holloway's Pills.—Liver Complaints and Disorder of the Bowels.—Incautious diet or heedless living as regards quality or quantity of food and beverage, or unavoidable exposure to changing temperature, are ever present to undermine the constitution. It is impossible to exaggerate the extraordinary virtues of this medicine in the treatment of all affections of the liver, or irregularities of the bowels. For curing bowel complaints they should be taken rather more sparingly, for every medicine in the form of an aperient requires caution when the bowels are disordered, though a more gentle apprient than these pills in moderate doses has nover yet been discovered. If taken according to the printed instructions they conquer the complaint and strengthen the system.

Markets.

OORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Oct. 10.
We had a good supply of English wheat and liberal arrivals from abroad. The market to day has been extremely depressed, and prices unsettled. English wheat was held

for some improvement, but little progress was made in sales, and factors accepted the prices of this day week. Foreign wheat was steady at former quotations. Country flour was without alteration in value. Peas and beans sold slowly at previous prices. Barley was in fair demand, and made former prices. Indian corn was rather more inquired after, at last week's advance. Of cast the supply on board ship is not so large, and prices have recovered 6d. per qr. since this day week, and many of the cargoes are being landed. Cargoes on the coast meet little demand, at last week's quatations.

		(T PRICES,	. 4	9
			Per	Qr.	APPEAR OF A STATE OF	Per	Qr.
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Ditto new			45	47	Maple		42
White			_	-	White	35	39
,, new					White	0.5	
Foreign red .	•	••	47	49			89
white		••			Foreign, b ilers	37	38
" Mutte			49	51			122
BARLEY-					Ave	36	#8
English malt	ing		31	34			- 1
Chevalier	100	•	36	43	OATS-		
Distilling		**	35	38	English feed	21	27
Foreign	••		83	83		¥5	82
	••	••	- 50	93	Scotch feed	**	1000
MALT-			25.40		South lead ,	1	C
Pale			_	-	Irish black	-	
OL			-	_	trian black	19	20
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	••	••	40	90	Foreign feed	20	23
Beans-					The second secon		
Ticks			37	40	PLOUR-		
			40	44	Town made	43	47
			_	-	Country Marks		89
Egyptian			1/ Labor 10	40	Horfolk & Buffolk	83	85
	000			-	Oct. 8.—The prices	-	-

Motropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 41bs. loaf, 71 i. to 8d.; Household Bread, 6jd. to 7d.

Metropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 41bs. 10af, 7j.1. to 3d.; Household Bread, 6jd. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Oct. 10.

—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 14,463 head. In the corresponding week in 1899 we received 10,491; in 1868, 7,934; in 1867, 12,556; and in 1866, 12,253 head. An increased amount of firmness has been noticed in the cattle trade to day, and prices have had an upward tendency. The effect of the stoppage of the Fronch and German beasts has already made itself apparent the total supply at market being much below the average. From our own grazing districts the receipts have been only moderate, but the quality has rather improved, whilst the condition of the Sootch beasts has been satisfactory. The demand has been firm, and 2d. per 81b. more money has been obtained; the best breeds selling at 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 81bs. From Lincolnshifes, Leicestershife, and Northamptonshifes we received about 1,800 shorthorn, 6c.; from other parts of England, about 1,800 shorthorn, 6c.; from Sootland, 150 Soots and crosses; and from the coast of Ireland, about 100 head. The sheep market was quiet and without material change. Supplies were fairly numerous, but the condition of the animals was inferior. Trade ruled dull, but last Monday's values were maintained for all descriptions. Best southdown half-bred wethers have occasionally made 6s. per 81bs. Calves have been duit, and there has not been much demand for pigs.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Honday, Oct. 12.— Large supplies of meat have been on sale. The trade has been heavy, and prices have ruled as under. The imports into London last week comprised of 2 cases 5 packages from Houflour, 248 packages from Hamburg, 6 Tonning, 3 from Rotterdam, and 8 from Harlingen.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Oot. 10.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 917 firkies butter and 2,192 bales but m, and from foreign ports 27,605 packages butter, and 2,211 bales bacon. The Irish butter market was very inactive. Supplies of foreign; increasing, prices remained about the same, with the exception of best Dutch, which advanced to 131s. to 13 is. The bacon trade remains slow, and all descriptions decline 1 2s. to 4s., best Waterford bacon 7ds. on board.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Oct. 8.—
The trade generally rules very heavy, and both wholesale and
retail prices are somewhat lower, there being a large supply.
Amongst flowers we have Asters, Fuchains, Bouvardies,
Pompon Chrysanthemums, Mignonette, Valuta purpures, and
a few good Heaths.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Oct. 10.—Our market is still oppressed by large quantities of hops, there being no active demand to clear the boards; and inferior grades, from the auxiety of holders to clear cut, are offered at somewhat lower rates; finer sorts only maintaining late value. For yearlings and olds of all kinds there is no demand. Suropean hops are only in limite t supply, and the quality offered is at present inferior. Latest advices from New York report the market as dull, with a slight decine in prices. The quality of the new crop is not so good as expected. Mid and Kast Kents, 21. 10s., 44. 4s. to 7l. 0s.; Vealds, 2l. 10s., 3l. 10s., to 4l. 0s.; Sussex, 2l. 5s., 2l. 14s., to 3l. 10s., Farnham and country, 3l. 15s., 4l. 15s., to 6l ds.; Olds 1l. 0s., 1l. 15s., to 1l. 10s.

POTATOES. — BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS. — Monday, Oct. 10.—There markets have been fairly supplied with potatoes. The trade has been steady at our quotations. The import in Loudon last week comprised 9 baskets 18 base from itotterdam, and 2 barrels from Bremen. Euglish Regents, Os. to 100s. per ton; Scotch Regents, 45s. to 90s. per ton; Rocks, 40s. to 60s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, Oct. 10.—New English cloverseed has appeared, and the first sample being of a very fine quality, commanded high prices, from 84s. to 92s, per cwt. Foreign red samples were held quite as much money. New white mustardseed was offered on former terms—the best Essex from 9s to 10s., and Cambridgeshire at 8s. 61 per bushel. New Dutch hempseed was offering at about 46s, per qr. New winter tares were abundant, and worth 8s. 64. to 9s. per bushel. winter tares were abundant, and worth 8:, 61, to 9s. per bushel. Trefoil was held at previous values. Foreign canary seed can be bought at moderate prices. Fine English realised former rates.

WOOL, Monday, Oct. 3 —The wool market has been without features of importance. More disposition to enter into transactions has been noticed, and all descriptions have been steady in value. The abundance and cheapness of money assist in strengthening values.

OIL, Monday, Oc. 10 —Linseed oil has receded to 31.0 on the spot to end of the year; English brown rape, 41. 10s. to 41. 15s. Palm scarce, at 39. 10s. for fine Lagos. Of we oils have ruled active.

TALLOW. Monday, Oct. 10.—The market has been quiet. Y.C., on the spot, 4 is. ed. per cwt. Town Tailow, 42s. 6d. net cash.

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BROOCHES, EGYPTIAN, "	£5	0
CHAINS, PRINCESS, "	£2	0
CHAINS, CYLINDER, "	£3	0
CHAINS, CURB, "	£4	0
(YHAINS, CABLE, "	£5	0
PARRINGS, ETRUSCAN, "	£1	10
EARRINGS, SAXON, "	£2	-5
PARRINGS, EGYPTIAN, "	£3	5
TARRINGS NINEVEN	£4	10
T COVETS ENGUAVED	£1	-0
T OOK BAS COBDED	£2	10
T OOV PTS ODOSS	£4	0
COLD WATCHES, LADIES',	£8	8
CIOLD WATCHES	£10	10
GOLD WATCHES, "		Thirty
GOLD WATCHES, 2-PLATE,	£15	15
GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING)	1000	11
GOLD WATCHES, 2-PLATE,	£16	16
GOLD WATCHES, "	220	0
GOLD WATCHES, KEYLESS		10
GOLD WATCHES, "	£22	0
GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING)	£18	18
CLOCKS, CARRIAGE,	£5	0
CLOCKS, " (STRIKING),	£7	7
CLUCKS, " "(ON GONG	£12	12
CLOCKS, LIBRARY (MARBLE	£4	0
CLOCKS, " "	£10	12
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Gentlemen,—

It having been decided that the Parliamentary Borough of Southwark shall be one of the Metropolitan Divisions under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, returning four members to the "School Board for London," I beg to offer myself as a Candidate for one of those seats.

I have leen for some years part a large employer of labour in the district, and the Educational wants of the working population of the Borough are well known to me

I have no special Educational grochet to advocate, but desire to aid in carrying out the provisions of the recent Act in a liberal and loyal spirit.

As a Protestant, I believe in an Open Bible and a Free Religion as the great bulwarks of our liberty, and the basis of our national prosperity.

If honoured with your confidence, and returned as one of your representatives at the "School Board," my simple object shall ever be to secure the best Educational advantages of recent legislation for the children of the large labouring population of the Borough of Southwark.

Yours faithfully,

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LINDSAY, V.C., M.P.

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